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## MUDA case: Clean chit for Siddaramaiah and wife

**The Hindu Bureau**
MYSURU

Citing "lack of evidence", the Lokayukta, which is probing alleged irregularities in the allotment of compensatory sites by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA), has given a clean chit to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, his wife, B.M. Parvathi, brother-in-law Mallikarjunaswamy, and J. Devaraju, who sold the land.

As per the notice issued to complainant Snehamayi Krishna by the Lokayukta police on Wednesday, the allegations against the four accused could not be proved due to "lack of evidence".

Sources in the Lokayukta police said they would submit a report on the investigation to the special court on Thursday.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 10

# Rekha Gupta, first-time MLA, named as Delhi CM

BJP Legislature Party meeting selects Shalimar Bagh legislator to hold the top post; she will become the fourth woman Chief Minister in the capital; oath-taking today at Ramlila Maidan

**Satvika Mahajan**
NEW DELHI

Rekha Gupta, a first-time MLA from Shalimar Bagh, has been chosen as the new Delhi Chief Minister, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said after its legislature party meeting at its national headquarters on Wednesday evening.

Ms. Gupta, 50, will be the fourth woman to head the government in the Union Territory.

The announcement comes nearly 10 days after the BJP returned to power in the national capital after 26 years, winning 48 of the 70 seats in the Assembly election. The party is yet to announce its picks for ministerial berths.

Ms. Gupta, a three-time municipal councillor who was active in student politics, was a surprise choice. She beat a number of probable candidates, including Parvesh Verma who had defeated Aam Aadmi Party chief Arvind Kejriwal in the New Delhi constituency, three-term MLA and former Leader of the Opposition Vijender Gupta, and former Delhi BJP president Satish Upadhyay.

**Starting big:** CM-designate Rekha Gupta with party leaders at the BJP office in New Delhi on Wednesday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Later, Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena invited Ms. Gupta to form the government, after she met him at his residence accompanied by senior BJP leaders.

The oath-taking ceremony, set to take place at Ramlila Maidan on Thursday, will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Chief Ministers of NDA-ruled States.

**Approved by consensus**

Ms. Gupta's selection by the legislature party was overseen by two central observers – senior MP Ravi Shankar Prasad, and former Haryana MLA O.P. Dhankar. BJP sources said that nine proposals were made in her favour, and all were approved by consensus. Speaking to presspersons after the meeting, Ms. Gupta expressed her gratitude to the top leadership of the party for trusting her with the responsibility.

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» PAGE 17

# No one can argue with me: Trump on reciprocal tariffs

**Press Trust of India**
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump has said that he had made it clear to Prime Minister Narendra Modi that India would not be spared from Washington's reciprocal tariffs, emphasising that "nobody can argue with me" on tariff structure.

Mr. Trump made the remarks during an interview with Sean Hannity of *Fox News* recently. *Fox News* aired a joint television interview with Mr. Trump and billionaire Elon Musk on Tuesday night.

The U.S. President had announced reciprocal tariffs on its trading partners on February 13, hours before a bilateral meeting with Mr. Modi in the White House.

Under the plan, the Trump administration "will work strenuously to counter non-reciprocal trading arrangements with trading partners by determining the equivalent of a reciprocal tariff with respect to each foreign trading partner".

**Standing firm:** The U.S. President had announced reciprocal tariffs on the country's trading partners on February 13. AFP

During the interview, Mr. Trump reiterated his stance on existing tariff structures between the U.S. and its partners, including India. "Nobody can argue with me," he insisted. "I told Prime Minister Modi... 'Here's what we're going to do: reciprocal. Whatever you charge, I'm charging,'" Mr. Trump said. "He (Modi) goes, 'No, no, I don't like that.' 'No, no, whatever you charge, I'm going to charge.' I'm doing that with every country."

India has very strong tariffs on certain imports from the U.S., as in the automobile sector. Under the reciprocal tariff system, the U.S. would impose the same level of tariffs on Indian goods.

'TESLA FACTORY UNFAIR'
» PAGE 19

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

UNDER THE BRAND BENGALURU INITIATIVE

NAMMA RASTE

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and
Bengaluru Urban Development Minister
Government of Karnataka

Road Design Oriented workshop & Exhibition

Inauguration of Conference, flagging of Mobile BBMP Laboratory
& Release of Namma Raste Kaipidi

D.K. SHIVAKUMAR
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and
Bengaluru Urban Development Minister, Government of Karnataka

20.02.2025, Thursday | 10.00 AM

DR RAJKUMAR GLASS HOUSE
BBMP Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru

Namma Raste 2025, an exhibition and convening by BBMP is to advance the design, operation, and maintenance of roads in Bengaluru. It takes a data-driven approach to address the city's mobility challenges, focusing on making transport more efficient and accessible for all while ensuring the safety of cyclists and pedestrians.

Under the Concept of Brand Bengaluru, we aim to provide integrated mobility solutions for all citizens, including high-quality roads, footpaths, safe junctions, and efficient metro, suburban train, and bus services.

To be in involved in **"Namma Raste 2025"** workshop, get registered using the link. **https://bit.ly/NammaRaste2025**

ON-GOING PROJECTS

- High Density Corridor
- White Topping Road
- Widening of RMP Road
- Development of 75 junctions' beautification and creation of public space at selected 25 junctions.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Bengaluru Business Corridor (BBC)
- Tunnel Road
- Sky deck
- Elevated Road
- Up gradation of 400km roads in the limit of BBMP
- Equipping Bengaluru with LED street lighting

**Special Note:** "Attention, residents and college students of the city! You are invited to a special exhibition on Bangalore Road Development. This is a great opportunity to learn about upcoming infrastructure projects. Join us in large numbers and be a part of the city's growth story!"

Knowledge Partner WRI (INDIA)

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The Constitutional Fundamental duty of every Indian is to protect public property and renounce violence

A BG-BGE

# Gill — a vital cog in an uber-aggressive white-ball approach

The batter from Punjab, a leader in waiting, has shown commendable match-awareness mixing caution with aggression; he would be a key batter if the pitches in Dubai assist spin; even as he gets ready for the Champions Trophy campaign, a sterner examination as a Test batter awaits him in England later in the year

K.R. DEEPAK

**R. Kaushik**

One of the more endearing celebrations in international cricket entails a routine culminating in the helmet coming off as the protagonist bows in the direction of the dugout, one hand behind his back, like an artiste humbling acknowledging the raucous cheers of an exhilarated audience. Shubman Gill's unique style, with a wide, self-satisfied but hardly smug smile, is a wonderful way of saying thanks for the appreciation at bringing up a milestone - in this case, a century.

Gill has 13 international hundreds; only once did he not do the 'hand-behind-the-back-bow-to-the-applause' routine, in Visakhapatnam against England in February last year. At his own request, Gill had dropped down to No. 3 in the Test batting order from the tour of the Caribbean in July 2023 after which, in 12 innings at that slot, he boasted a highest of 36 and just one further knock in excess of 30.

Therefore, when he reached his third Test century, against Ben Stokes' side, his overwhelming emotion was relief rather than ecstasy or delight. For all the positive reinforcement that came from within the side, Gill needed to prove to himself that he belonged at No. 3 in Tests, at a position previously occupied with wonderful returns by Rahul Dravid and Cheteshwar Pujara. Visakhapatnam was vindication; it was redemption, salvation. It was the start of a grand run that brought him two more hundreds and two other knocks of more than 50 in his next seven Test knocks.

Gill's bat subsequently went cold in the five-day game, his last 11 innings yielding a solitary half-century and no other score of more than 40. Yet, that didn't stop him from embracing the 'bow' in Ahmedabad last week, when he completed a rare treble - an international century in each of the formats at the same venue - with a blazing 112 against England in the last of three ODIs.

Gill is a little over six years old in international cricket, but the man from Punjab has already led the country (in a stand-in capacity) in a Twenty20 International series in Zimbabwe and is now the white-ball vice-captain in both formats - to Rohit Sharma in ODIs and Suryakumar Yadav in T20Is. It is clear that he is being groomed for a prolonged stint as leader in the not-too-distant future, even though succession plans sometimes have a way of going horribly wrong.

As India begin their quest to regain the Champions Trophy which they last won in England in 2013, Gill's place in the scheme of things is pre-eminent. With good reason, the attention and the onus will be on Rohit and Virat Kohli to shore up the Indian batting, but the others aren't there to merely make up the numbers. In any case, how can the world's best ODI batter just make up the numbers?

### Re-ascension to the top

A day before India's Champions Trophy opener, against Bangladesh in Dubai on Thursday, Gill reclaimed the tag of the No. 1 ODI batter, an exalted status he first enjoyed in November 2023, during the home World Cup. Inasmuch as rankings don't count for a great deal and are hardly guarantors of success, Gill's re-ascension to the top of the pile must be seen as reward for the consistency he has showcased in the 50-over game despite playing just six of those in the last 15 months.

One of the great challenges of playing the brand of cricket India have embarked on in the limited-overs formats is to be able to marry aggression and positivity with consistency. To take the game by the scruff of the neck comes with attendant risk-taking because that's what the team culture demands. There is no place for conservatism at the altar of team goals because roles are clearly demarcated and players know the dos and the don'ts. Players have the safety net of sustained chances even if they fail more than once in trying to perform their roles, but managements will perhaps be less tolerant of those trying to further their own cause at the expense of the needs of the larger group.

Even without the vice-captaincy, Gill had shown himself to be a team player. Now that he has formally been earmarked for a larger, more influential role at some stage in the future, he knows that like Rohit, he must do as he says. Gill's youthfulness isn't so much a deterrent as an advantage because he has grown up from a cricketing perspective alongside several cricketers who will soon form the core group of the national team across formats. By his own admission, he loves captaining because it helps him stay in the game all the time, keeps him on his mental toes and allows him to look at the larger picture instead of focusing on the narrow prism of his own batsmanship.

Against England, Gill was in imperious touch. When he is in prime form, Gill cuts a dashing figure who keeps the score board ticking over effortlessly. Strong off the back foot on either side of the pitch, Gill's USP is the ability to strike up terrific partnerships with different batting- and personality-types. In T20I cricket, for instance, he and Yashasvi Jaiswal form a wonderful tandem, the left-handed Jaiswal's unfettered aggression complementing Gill's more subliminal stroke-making. By the same token, Rohit and Gill are a fabulous 50-over opening duo who enjoy batting alongside each other, despite the vast difference in age and approach to the game.

In just 27 innings together, the skipper and his deputy have amassed 1874 runs at a fabulous average of 72.07. They boast six hundred stands and 11 other associations of more than 50, which means that 63% of the time they take the field for a 50-over international, they guarantee a 50-plus start. That's a grand luxury for a team to possess when it is constantly looking to raise the ODI bar, and while almost every one of these innings will have the Rohit hand as the lead battering ram, Gill is gradually evolving into an attacking entity in his own right who loses neither grace nor shape in trying to take the bowling on.

Against England, Gill backed up 87 in game one in Nagpur at No. 3 with 60 in the second, before signing off with a flourish in Ahmedabad, whose Narendra Modi Stadium must be his favourite cricketing ground for obvious reasons. That he made these substantial runs while chasing two targets and setting a third speaks to his ability to play the situation when the need arises, but also to be able to set the tone if that is what is the requirement. In the last few years, the essential four-hitter has added more power to his game, and when he waltzes down the track to smack spinners, largely, into the stands either side of the sightscreen, the effortlessness of the entire process is nothing short of breathtaking.

In Dubai over the next fortnight, Gill will be expected to not just hold his own but, whenever possible, step out of Rohit's shadows. One of the challenges at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, if the surfaces play true to form, is the relative slowness of the decks which will make hitting through the line anything but straightforward. If that's how things do turn out, Gill will have to make his own pace while ensuring that it isn't just Rohit who is capitalising the most on the field restrictions in the first ten PowerPlay overs.

Beyond his own batting, Gill has the added responsibility of weighing in with his views at team discussions and picking the brain of the ODI opening partner, whose approach to leadership is unique and has endeared him to almost everyone. In his apprenticeship, Gill must be open to learning and to asking; he has shown that he isn't averse to doing so while at the same retaining retaining the confidence and the self-belief to make self-driven requests, such as the drop down the batting order, if only by one slot, in Test cricket.

No batter, however successful and celebrated, is immune to the fickleness of form that cricket, more than any other sport, brings in its wake. As such, it becomes imperative to make the most of a good thing, to keep stacking up the runs when the occasional rub of the green goes one's way. Consistency is largely a by-product of unwavering work ethics, clarity-driven goal-setting and implicit trust in one's processes. Competitive cricket has seldom placed more demands than it is doing now, especially on all-format players such as Gill, never mind if he might be the practitioner of seemingly the less demanding of the sport's primary disciplines. To be able to make the mental switch successfully entails immense self-discipline of the sort Gill has showcased sporadically, but which he must wear as a second skin if he is to start stacking up Test runs outside the subcontinent.

The summer tour of England will be a big examination of Gill's adaptability because now, he will be under greater scrutiny over the lack of meaningful Test returns outside Asia. There is nowhere to hide when it comes to a five-Test match series, as Kohli found out in England in 2014, but that's in the future. For now, Gill will target five matches in Dubai - which will mean India are in the final, at the very least - to reassert his standing as the best ODI batter on the planet currently. That will not be just self-serving, it will also serve the cause of the team; nothing will delight the vice-captain more.

## THE GIST

- Gill's USP is the ability to strike up terrific partnerships with different batting- and personality-types
- In Dubai over the next fortnight, Gill will be expected to not just hold his own but, whenever possible, step out of Rohit's shadows
- Gill will target five matches in Dubai to reassert his standing as the best ODI batter on the planet currently

# Microchips to be installed in stray dogs, activists move HC

A pilot project, taken up in Mathikere and Malleswaram in 2024, was declared successful

**K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj**
BENGALURU

The civic body took up a survey of stray dogs in the city in 2023, which pegged the number of strays at 2.79 lakh, down from 3.1 lakh in the previous survey held in 2019. FILE PHOTO

> Microchips will help us identify dogs that have already been vaccinated and avoid double vaccination. If we install microchips, we will have a clear picture of the number of strays in a given area.
>
> **SURALKAR VIKAS KISHOR**
> Special Commissioner (Health), BBMP

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has decided to install microchips in all stray dogs in the city.

The grain-sized microchips to be injected into the bodies of stray dogs will have all relevant information like a photo of the dog, the place it was captured and microchipped, date of birth control surgery, vaccination details, etc., apart from assigning a globally recognised unique number.

Animal rights activists have opposed the project and challenged the same in the High Court of Karnataka; the case is still pending. However, as the court hasn't given a stay order for the project, BBMP has now called for tenders for the procurement of these microchips, readers, and software for the same.

While the evaluation of technical bids is on, financial bids will be opened soon. This will help them track the stray dogs in the city better, the civic body said.

**Pilot project**

The civic body took up a survey of stray dogs in the city in 2023, which pegged the number of strays at 2.79 lakh, down from 3.1 lakh in the previous survey held in 2019.

Following this, BBMP took up a pilot project to install microchips in stray dogs in Mathikere and Malleswaram in September 2024. The civic body has now declared the pilot as successful and decided to expand the project to cover all stray dogs in the city.

"We will install microchips in all stray dogs in the city in a phased manner. This year, in the first phase, we will install microchips in about 50,000 stray dogs. We have called tenders for procuring microchips at a base price of ₹170/microchip. We will open the financial bids soon after the evaluation of the technical bids is completed. Two firms have submitted their bids," said Suralkar Vikas Kishor, Special Commissioner (Health), BBMP.

"Microchips will help us identify dogs that have already been vaccinated and avoid double vaccination. Most times, around 15-20% of stray dogs always remain outside the ambit of vaccination and birth control surgeries. If we install microchips, we will have a clear picture of the number of strays in a given area, and its spatial distribution in the city. This will not only help us achieve far better vaccination and birth control penetration, but also helps us plan better their management," he said.

**Challenged in HC**

Animal rights activists have opposed the project calling it "illegal" and "unwarranted" and have filed a Public Interest Litigation in the High Court challenging the same.

Nevina Kamath of Action for Animal Justice, a civic group, one of the petitioners before the High Court, said that the rules mandate the installation of microchips only to pet dogs and not stray dogs, and extending it to stray dogs was "illegal".

She argued that the civic body should put it on hold till the court decides.

"It is not only wasteful expenditure but will hinder the process of vaccination. Presently, the process is to punch the ears of dogs that have undergone surgery for birth control. During a vaccination drive in an area, the rules say that dogs that have been vaccinated have to be marked on their heads with a paint mark to target unvaccinated dogs further. Now, one needs to catch all stray dogs first to read the microchips on them to physically identify which have been vaccinated and which haven't been. This will slow down the vaccination process," she said.

**Side effects**

Moreover, she said the installation of microchips is not without side effects and there have been cases of the dogs developing tumours, having oozing wounds where the microchips have been installed.

Mr. Kishor said that while the rules stipulate microchips for pet dogs, it doesn't bar from installation of microchips in stray dogs. "Rajkot in Gujarat has installed microchips in all stray dogs," he said.

## Woman asks doctor for tablet to kill mother-in-law

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A doctor from Sanjay Nagar in Bengaluru filed a complaint against a woman after she allegedly messaged him seeking help to kill her mother-in-law through medication.

The accused contacted Sunil Kumar after finding his number on Instagram and sent messages seeking a prescription for a tablet which could kill her mother-in-law. She claimed that her mother-in-law is aged and harassing her.

Shocked, he replied that being a doctor, he is supposed to save life and not kill someone or recommend such an act. The doctor approached Sanjay Nagar police on February 17 and filed a complaint.

The police tried to reach the number, but it was switched off.

"We suspect it was a prank or the woman was not in her senses when she made the demand," a police officer said, adding that they are checking her location through call record details.

## Two-year-old boy killed in freak accident

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A two-year-old boy was killed when a heavy construction equipment ran over him while playing outside his house in Seegehalli on Tuesday.

The accident took place around 6.30 p.m. when the victim, identified as Pavan Reddy, was playing outside his house while his mother was busy with household chores.

According to the police, the vehicle was being driven recklessly when the driver failed to notice the boy, knocked him down, and ran over him.

The boy was rushed to the hospital but was declared 'brought dead'.

**Complaint filed**

His parents, both employees of a private firm, filed a complaint against the driver, who was subsequently arrested. The Mahadevapura traffic police confirmed that the driver was not under the influence of alcohol.

## National Horticulture Fair from February 27

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A file photo of visitors at the horticulture fair in Bengaluru.

This year's edition of the National Horticulture Fair (NHF), to be organised by the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), will be held from February 27 to March 1 at the Hessarghatta campus of the Institute in the Bengaluru city outskirts.

It will focus on the theme "Horticulture for Viksit Bharat - Nutrition, Empowerment, and Livelihood", and aim to emphasise the pivotal role of horticulture in the country's development.

The event will address the critical needs of the horticulture sector by presenting advancements in crop production, pest management, post-harvest technologies, and value addition.

Some of the key objectives of the fair include promoting nutritious crops by showcasing varieties that are nutritionally rich, helping to improve overall health and well-being in India, especially in rural areas where malnutrition remains a challenge. One of the key goals is to empower farmers with information, skills, and technologies to improve their livelihoods.

This will be achieved through demonstrations, workshops, and expert-led sessions that provide farmers with need-based solutions. The fair will exhibit more than 250 varieties of horticultural crops developed by ICAR-IIHR. These innovations span various aspects, including crop protection, value addition, post-harvest management, and specialised tools for horticulture.

**Terrace farming**

The fair will highlight urban horticulture through vertical farming and terrace gardening techniques. These methods are particularly relevant for urban populations looking for sustainable ways to grow their own food.

The NHF 2025 will feature live demonstrations of cutting-edge technologies and varieties developed by ICAR-IIHR, allowing attendees to see first-hand how these innovations work in practical settings.

One of the standout features will be the Centre of Excellence dedicated to the protected cultivation of different horticultural crops, an essential technique to ensure consistent crop yields in varying environmental conditions.

The event will host skill-building workshops aimed at improving the technical expertise of farmers and professionals.

Topics will include mushroom production, pest management, vertical farming techniques, and urban gardening practices.

# Only second animal to find its way by polarised moonlight found

The way the polarisation patterns of sunlight and moonlight are oriented in the sky allows animals to use it as a compass. Nocturnal bull ants were able to detect polarised moonlight throughout the lunar cycle for foraging, even under a crescent moon when the moonlight is 80% less intense

Madhurima Pattanayak

A close-up view of a *Myrmecia pyriformis* ant. Before the present study, scientists already knew *M. pyriformis* ants used polarised sunlight to navigate, but this light fades as the sun sets. PATRICK KAVANAGH/FLICKR (CC BY)

Many nocturnal animals, including insects such as ants and bees, follow the moon's position to find their way when they go foraging. But the moon waxes and wanes in a cycle and can be obscured by clouds or overhanging tree canopies, so the animals cannot always directly track its position.

Now, for the first time, scientists at Macquarie University, Sydney, have found that two nocturnal bull ant species (*Myrmecia pyriformis* and *Myrmecia midas*) make their way at night with the help of polarised moonlight, which, while being dimmer even than moonlight, contains unusual patterns that can point the way.

This is also only the second instance of an animal being found to use polarised moonlight to orient itself.

## Returning late

Seen from the ground, both sunlight and moonlight contain characteristic polarisation patterns. The way these patterns are oriented in the sky, rather than the location of the light source alone, allows animals to use it as a compass.

The study found the nocturnal bull ants were able to detect and use polarised moonlight throughout the lunar cycle for foraging, even under a crescent moon when moonlight is 80% less intense.

The polarisation patterns in moonlight are also a million-times dimmer than in sunlight. So while many animals are known to use the latter, very few use the former. The first animal found to use polarised moonlight was the dung beetle.

Scientists already knew *M. pyriformis* and *M. midas* ants used polarised sunlight to navigate, but this light fades as the sun sets. The study's researchers were also aware most of the foraging *M. midas* ants returned overnight while the night-time activity of *M. pyriformis* ants increased on full-moon nights.

## The e-vector pattern

The sun and the moon both emit unpolarised light. Light is an electromagnetic wave, with the electric field oscillating perpendicular to the magnetic field, and both fields oscillating perpendicular to the wave's direction of motion.

When the light moves through the earth's atmosphere, it is scattered by particles in the air and becomes polarised. Polarisation denotes a specific orientation of the electric field.

Both sunlight and moonlight scattered in the atmosphere become linearly polarised, meaning the electric field oscillates in a single, fixed plane perpendicular to the wave's motion. The scattered light is also oriented 90° to the incident light.

As numerous light waves are scattered in this way, an unusual pattern emerges in the sky when seen through a filter that can detect polarised light. This is called the e-vector pattern.

"[W]hen the sun/moon is near the horizon, the pattern of polarised skylight is particularly simple, with uniform direction of polarisation approximately parallel to the north-south axes," the researchers wrote in their paper.

The stability of this pattern gives an animal that can detect it a natural compass.

## Under the moon

The researchers created linearly polarised light and cast it on a population of nocturnal bull ants in the wild, then tracked the ants' ability to orient themselves relative to their two nests, located more than 50 metres apart.

Under full, waxing, and waning moon conditions, the researchers rotated their polariser clockwise by 45° and later counterclockwise by 45°. In each instance, the e-vector of the light falling on the ants changed. The ants responded by adjusting their path to the left and later to the right. Once the foragers crossed the area where the researchers' light was being cast, they adjusted once more to reorient themselves according to the e-vector pattern in the sky.

The researchers used paired tests to compare the magnitude of these shifts between the initial orientation and the filter exit and again between the filter exit and the reorientation. The paired tests are a statistical tool with which researchers can determine whether paired observations – shift magnitudes in this case – differ between two samples.

"Shift magnitude is the number of degrees the ants alter their headings under the filter," Cody Freas, a doctoral student at Macquarie University and one of the study's coauthors, said.

While the nocturnal bull ants were found to use polarised moonlight throughout the lunar cycle, their heading shift magnitudes dropped during the waning phases. The researchers called this finding "unexpected". Likewise, foraging ants had substantially higher shift magnitudes during the waxing full moon and waxing quarter moon phases compared to the waning phases.

> The sun and the moon both emit unpolarised light. When the light moves through the atmosphere, it is scattered by particles in the air and becomes polarised. Polarisation denotes a specific orientation of the electric field

Under the new moon, when the ambient moonlight e-vector disappeared, the paths of the foraging ants did not change significantly when the polarisation filter was rotated in either direction. The ants also didn't reorient their paths to a meaningful degree once they exited the filter.

The researchers used another statistical test to compare the differences in shift magnitudes when the filter was rotated clockwise and counter-clockwise across lunar phases.

## Shift magnitudes, vector distances

During the full moon, when moonlight reaches 80% of its maximum intensity, the shift magnitudes were 36.6° to 43° at Nest 1 and 21.5° to 28.9° at Nest 2. According to Freas, the difference between the two nests is likely due to the long distance that foragers at Nest 1 traversed on their trip to the foraging tree, 6 m, versus 2.5 m from Nest 2.

"At short vector lengths, like at Nest 2, the vector, which is informed by the sky compass, becomes less reliable," he said, adding that the longer the distance, the more "powerful" the guidance is.

"Thus, if the ant walks 6 m to the foraging tree, we can say that the ant has a 6-m vector pointing back to the nest. This vector also [shrinks] as the ant travels in the nest direction. It's an updating estimate of how far away the nest is at any point. So when we release an ant halfway home, it still has the vector from where it was captured (6 m)."

According to Clarke Scholtz, emeritus professor of entomology at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, and Marie Dacke, a professor of sensory biology at Lund University, Sweden, "The methods used in the study are appropriate." Neither was involved in the study.

"While we cannot compare solar and moonlight polarisation navigation in outbound ants ..., striking similarities occur when comparing solar and moonlight polarisation navigation in ants homing to the nest," the researchers wrote in their paper.

"... it remains unknown if these ants are tracking their lunar polarisation compass by using a time-compensated lunar compass, or if the compass is updated with reference to other cues, such as the panorama, throughout the night," they added. Honeybees and desert ants have been known to use such cues together with sunlight. They said future research could check whether the ants have a way to say where the moon is after specific intervals by "exposing or blocking access to the sky and familiar panorama for set time periods when the moon is naturally visible overnight...".

*(Madhurima Pattanayak is a freelance science writer and journalist based in Kolkata. madhurima.pattanayak@gmail.com)*

An artist's concept of Sagittarius A*, surrounded by a swirling accretion disk of hot gas. REUTERS

# *Glimpses of violence around Milky Way's central black hole*

Reuters

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope is providing the best look yet at the chaotic events unfolding around the supermassive black hole at the center of our Milky Way galaxy, observing a steady flickering of light punctuated by occasional bright flares as material is drawn inward by its enormous gravitational pull.

Webb was launched in 2021 and began collecting data in 2022, allowing astronomers to observe the region around the black hole, called Sagittarius (Sgr) A*, for extended periods for the first time.

The region around Sgr A* was seen as bubbling with activity rather than remaining in a steady state. In particular, the researchers observed a constant flickering of light from the swirling disk of gas surrounding the black hole, called an accretion disk. This flickering appears to be emanating from material very close to the event horizon, the point of no return beyond which everything is dragged into oblivion.

There were also one to three large flares over any 24-hour period with smaller bursts in between.

"The accretion disk is a very chaotic region filled with turbulence, and the gas gets even more chaotic and compressed as it approaches the black hole, under extreme gravity," said astrophysicist Farhad Yusef-Zadeh of Northwestern University in Illinois, lead author of the study published on February 18 in the astrophysical journal *Letters*.

"Blobs of gas are bumping into one another and, in some cases, being forced or compressed together by the strong magnetic fields that exist within the disk, somewhat similar to what happens in solar flares," said astrophysicist and study co-author Howard Bushouse of the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore.

**Researchers observed a flickering of light from the accretion disk. This flickering appears to be emanating from material very close to the event horizon, the point of no return**

While these bursts arise from a mechanism similar to solar flares, which blast hot charged particles into space from our sun, they occur in a different astrophysical environment and at a vastly higher energetic level.

As such, the new observations are not of the black hole itself but of the material surrounding it.

Sgr A* possesses roughly four-million-times the mass of our sun and is located about 26,000 lightyears from the earth.

While the events observed around Sgr A* are dramatic, this black hole is not as active as some at the centres of other galaxies.

The new findings were based on a total of about 48 hours of observations of Sgr A* made by Webb over a year, in seven increments ranging from 6 to 9.5 hours, as the researchers obtained continuous measurements of the brightness around the black hole.

The observations are providing insight into how black holes interact with their surrounding environments. Yusef-Zadeh said that about 90% of the accretion disk's material falls into the black hole while the rest is ejected back into space.

This accretion disk appears to be made up of material accumulated from the stellar winds of nearby stars captured by the gravitational force of Sgr A*, rather than from a star that wandered too close and got shredded, the researchers said.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

# Unusual materials

Vasudevan Mukunth

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

**QUESTION 1.**
This material is one of the lightest solids known, since more than 99% of its composition by volume is air. Making it involves extracting the liquid component of a particular type of semisolid by supercritical freezing. Name it.

**QUESTION 2.**
In the 1970s, a British hairdresser named Maurice Ward developed a material his granddaughter called _____. He claimed, and which some independent tests upheld, that it could withstand extreme heat, although attempts to use it to line induction furnaces failed. Fill in the blank.

**QUESTION 3.**
This material is the world's second most used after water. While it is very strong, it has low tensile strength and is thus prone to cracking. Over the centuries, scholars have tried to develop "self-healing" versions of this material, including, most recently, bacteria-based efforts. Name the material.

**QUESTION 4.**
In the 1986 Star Trek film *The Voyage Home*, two characters trade a formula for transparent aluminium in return for other items. Name the ceramic compound of the metal that is actually transparent, and has also been shown to withstand armour-piercing bullets.

**QUESTION 5.**
Like graphene, a one-atom layer of bonded carbon atoms, stanene is a layer of ___ atoms. This sheet is of interest to materials scientists because it's expected to be a topological insulator, i.e. able to conduct electricity only along its surface. Fill in the blanks.

**Answers to February 13 quiz**:
1. Natural energy source that heats the Shanay-timpishka tributary – **Ans: Geothermal energy**
2. Subterranean aquifer below the Amazon river – **Ans: Rio Hamza**
3. Phenomenon where the Qiantang River meets Hangzhou Bay – **Ans: Tidal bore**
4. Element that turns the Daldykan River red – **Ans: Nickel**
5. Antarctic river that flows in summer towards Lake Vanda – **Ans: Onyx**
Visual: **Caño Cristales**
First contact: Shreya Raj | K.N. Viswanathan | ViswanadhaRao Batchu | Aman Panchal | Shivam Srivastava

Visual: This element joins Cs, Rb, and Hg as a non-radioactive metal near room-temperature as well as Si, Ge, Bi, and Pu as elements whose liquid forms are denser than their solid forms. Name it. CREDIT: FOOBAR (CC BY-SA 3.0)

**For feedback and suggestions**
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

# Five persons held for smuggling marijuana

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

**The accused were intercepted at KIA and about 20 kg of cannabis was seized from them**

The Narcotics Control Bureau on Wednesday dismantled an international drug racket and arrested five persons allegedly smuggling high-grade marijuana from Thailand to Bengaluru.

A team of officials from NCB Bengaluru Zonal Unit intercepted the accused carrying high-grade Cannabis (Hydroponic Weed) at Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru, and seized about 20 kg of cannabis from them.

According to the police, the accused are in the age group of 25-35, working as mules and carriers to bring the contraband from Thailand to people unknown to them.

The accused, who are from India, are believed to be a part of a trans-national drug trafficking syndicate that sponsored the trips of the arrested persons to Thailand on the promise that while returning to India from Thailand, they would have to carry the bag containing ganja, an official from the NCB said.

"The public is informed that possession of cannabis is an offence in India and carries a punishment of up to 20 years in prison. Further, the public is advised to be careful against falling into such traps," officials said.

# Land surveyors get modern technology-based rovers

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Krishna Byre Gowda

To modernise land survey work in the State, as many as 465 land surveyors were provided with modern technology-based rovers on Wednesday.

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, who handed over the rovers at an event at the office of the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, said the traditional method of conducting land surveys relied on chain measurements for ages. "Surveyors, along with two assistants, had to work under the scorching sun. A single survey took at least 70 minutes, and drafting the map required an additional three hours. However, with modern rover technology, this entire process can now be completed in just 10 minutes," he said.

Survey work in the State was conducted only between 1830 and 1870, with limited resurveying done in 1967. Other than that, no major surveys have taken place. Given the various challenges faced by farmers today, it is crucial to accelerate survey and resurvey efforts. It is shocking that even today, the same chain survey method used since 1806 is still in practice, he said.

"Despite the world undergoing massive transformations over the past 200 years, our procedures have remained unchanged. Some still believe that surveys can be conducted manually, burdening employees unnecessarily, which is inhumane and goes against social justice," he remarked.

"The chain survey method allows for manipulation, enabling some to alter survey results for their benefit. This has forced many people into prolonged court battles. However, such malpractices are impossible with the rover-based surveys. Hence, our goal is to integrate new technology into the department, ensuring faster surveys for the public and reducing workload pressure on officials," he assured.

# NIA arrests three more in ISI-linked Vizag espionage case

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) with the assistance of local police on Tuesday arrested three more accused persons in the Pakistani ISI-linked Visakhapatnam espionage case involving sensitive and classified naval defence information.

While Vethan Laxman Tandel and Akshay Ravi Naik were picked up from Uttara Kannada district in Karnataka, Abhilash P.A. was arrested from Kochi in Kerala. With these, the total arrests in the case have gone up to eight.

The accused were found to have been in contact with Pakistan Intelligence Operatives (PIOs) through social media, an NIA release said, further alleging that they were sharing sensitive information about Indian defence establishments at the Karwar and the Kochi Naval Base, and were receiving money from PIOs in exchange for the information.

The NIA has so far chargesheeted five persons, including two absconding Pakistani operatives, in the case that was originally registered by the Counter Intelligence Cell, Andhra Pradesh, in January 2021. The NIA probe have revealed that Pakistani national Meer Balaj Khan, along with an arrested accused Akash Solanki, was involved in the racket relating to the leakage of sensitive vital information on the Indian Navy, as part of an anti-India conspiracy.

# Hoysala police rescue 2 persons

**Anupama Mani**
**Siddarth B Mahajan**
BENGALURU

The Hoysala patrolling staff rescued a 27-year-old woman in the nick of time while she allegedly attempted to end her life after locking herself inside the washroom of her house in Govindapura on Sunday.

It was around 12.30 p.m. when Hoysala-42 patrol team, led by ASI Rabbani and Head Constable Iranna, received an SOS and rushed to the location.

The complainant stated her sister had locked herself in the bathroom and was attempting to harm herself over family issues. The rescue team rushed to the location and found the woman in a distressed and unstable state. The officers broke open the door, rescued her, and immediately admitted her to a nearby hospital, the police said.

**Hebbal midnight rescue**

In another incident, on January 26, around 11:50 p.m., the 112 emergency helpline received a call that a man had consumed a poisonous liquid and locked himself inside his house in Babu Reddy Layout.

The victim, a private firm employee, had been living in a rented building with his wife and their three children. Following a domestic dispute, his wife moved to stay with her family. During a video call with his wife, he consumed the liquid and locked himself inside the house. The panicked wife immediately informed their building owner, who in turn alerted the police.

The Hoysala-128 patrol team, led by Assistant Inspector Chenappa and Head Constable Basappa, rushed to the scene. They broke open the door with the help of two individuals and found the victim unconscious and immediately called for an ambulance.

*(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help)*

# Text&Context

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

### Rajasthan's 2025 State budget presented by State Finance Minister

**5.37** in ₹ lakh crore. Recruitment for up to 2.75 lakh positions in the government and private sector, water supply projects, and the construction of greenfield expressways were the highlights of the Rajasthan Budget 2025-26 presented by State Finance Minister Diya Kumari. PTI

### Investment required to meet India's emission reduction goals

**700** in $ billion. Moody's Ratings stated that the power sector accounts for around 37% of carbon emissions in the country. The sector, which is highly dependent on coal-fired generation, has to make decarbonisation investments for the country to meet its emission-cut goals. PTI

### Woman Naxals killed in Madhya Pradesh police encounter

**3** The Madhya Pradesh police combat unit, Hawk Force, and the police neutralised three hardcore Naxalites in an encounter near Ronda Forest Camp in Supkhar Forest Range under Garhi Police Station area, an official statement said. Police recovered three rifles and some essential daily-use items, it said. PTI

### The additional rice to be given under the Anna Bhagya scheme

**5** in kgs. The Karnataka government will begin providing additional rice from February under the pre-poll Anna Bhagya guarantee. The Congress government had promised to provide 10 kgs of rice every month to families falling below the poverty line. This includes five kgs of rice supplied by the Centre. PTI

### U.S. President Donald Trump to increase auto tariffs

**25** in per cent. U.S. President Donald Trump expanded his offensive against trading partners threatening high tariffs on imported cars, and similar or higher duties on pharmaceuticals. He pledged 10% duties on all goods coming from China. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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# On building resilient telecom infrastructure

What does the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure report state? Why do telecom networks face elevated risks in coastal regions in times of disaster and calamity? Why are undersea cables preferred over overland cables? Is power failure a significant challenge?

EXPLAINER

Aroon Deep

**The story so far:**

The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), a multilateral organisation launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019, put out a report earlier this month studying Indian telecom networks' preparedness in the event of disasters. The report suggests ways in which State governments can better prepare for calamities that may impact telecom networks.

**Why is it important?**

Telecom networks are crucial to handling disasters, because they allow the State and National Disaster Management Authorities to communicate quickly with local municipalities and the State and Union governments; something that is important when lives and property are at stake. Telecom networks are particularly vulnerable, as they comprise cabling that may not be fully underground, towers that may not be able to withstand high wind speeds, and because they rely on a steady flow of electricity, which is frequently disrupted by disasters like cyclones and earthquakes.

**How are they impacted in disasters?**

On top of towers being hit by high-speed winds, overland cables – as opposed to underground ones, which can be protected from many disasters – can snap. Coastal regions face elevated risks, as that is where undersea cables connect India with the global internet. If the landing stations of these cables are impacted, there can be massive network disruptions as telecom operators try to reroute traffic through other cables.

The lack of power during disasters remains a major issue. "When I first joined here, I did my own analysis of data of telecom outages since 2016, and found that the real issue was power," Sanjay Agrawal, deputy director general of disaster management at the Department of Telecommunications said.

**Major hazard:** Officials remove Optical Fibre Cables which were hanging in Bengaluru, 2018. FILE PHOTO

**What can be done?**

Severed undersea cables have a time-consuming repair process that involves a repair vessel arriving near the coast and rejoining the cables. However, since much of the disruption is attributable to power failures, much can be accomplished during a disaster by maintaining or restoring power supply to telecom towers and the network operating centres to which they're connected. Telecom operators have typically never deployed towers assuming 24/7 power supply – with the possible exception of Mumbai – and have battery as well as fuel backup.

Pradeep Kumar Jena, former Chief Secretary of Odisha, said, "sometimes a tower operator may not have enough power available at a time of disaster for whatever reason – one can't [pass around] blame at that point of time," and when this happens, "we decide, let's give every telecom operator 50 litres of fuel." Even if the fuel is wasted, the ₹50 lakh spent on it goes a long way in keeping networks online, he said. This is complemented with information from the DoT. "We get data from all telecom operators on damages to their assets for every disaster," Mr. Agrawal said. "We have software to monitor in real time what telecom assets are down." As such, resources can be deployed quickly to bring sites back online.

**How can networks be protected?**

The CDRI report recommends a few measures to develop a resilient telecom network These include greater data collection and more coordination among officials, a more robust power infrastructure (resilient power infrastructure is also an area where CDRI focuses an enormous amount of effort on), and requiring cell towers to withstand higher wind speeds, especially in coastal States and districts where hurricanes make landfall. The CDRI also advocates for a dig-once policy, which recommends building as much underground civil infrastructure, like water and gas supply lines, drainage and fibre optic cables simultaneously, reducing the risk of cables being damaged when other infrastructure is built. Existing damage to underground cables can greatly exacerbate disruptions when other parts of a network go down.

"The short- to medium-term roadmap suggests the need to update disaster damage and loss data format, mainstream disaster risk modelling into telecommunications infrastructure planning across all miles, strengthen telecommunications asset design based on local and regional hazard vulnerability profiles," and other steps to plan ahead, the report says. There are also commercial interventions that the report touches on. A key one is parametric insurance, a system where telecom operators are not left to bear the commercial burden of a disaster all by themselves, and are thus financially incentivised to bring networks back online rapidly (and presumably to nudge them to disaster-proof their infrastructure well enough to keep premiums down).

Telecom resilience comes down to a mix of both massive interventions as well as small investments that can have an outsize benefit. For instance, during heavy rains, diesel generators can stop working even at knee-level flooding. One simple intervention that can go a long way in keeping towers online is by simply installing the generator a little higher up the tower, so that the backup power can kick in even during flooding.

## THE GIST

- Telecom networks are crucial to handling disasters, because they allow the State and National Disaster Management Authorities to communicate quickly with local municipalities and the State and Union governments.
- The CDRI report recommends a few measures to develop a resilient telecom network These include greater data collection and more coordination among officials, a more robust power infrastructure, and requiring cell towers to withstand higher wind speeds, especially in coastal States and districts where hurricanes make landfall.
- Coastal regions face elevated risks, as that is where undersea cables connect India with the global internet.

# Did the iron age on Indian soil start from Tamil Nadu?

Why did Chief Minister M.K. Stalin assert that the 'history of Indian subcontinent could no longer overlook Tamil Nadu'? What did the recent report, 'Antiquity of Iron: Recent radiometric dates from Tamil Nadu', state?

R. Sai Venkatesh

**The story so far:**

Releasing a report on the antiquity of iron, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin proclaimed that the iron age began on "Tamil soil", placing the date 5,300-odd years ago (4th millennium BCE), and that the "history of Indian subcontinent could no longer overlook Tamil Nadu".

**What had research said till now?**

The usage of iron is one of the most important technological innovations in human history. The genesis of iron in India has seen several explanations, including its supposed arrival with immigrants from the West. Experts and scholars, around the middle of the last century, traced its origins back to 700-600 BCE. However, subsequent radiocarbon dating and research pushed it further back. Technical studies on materials found at several places suggested that iron smelting in India could have begun as early as the 16th century BCE.

Furthermore, in the backdrop of the results of the excavations at Uttar Pradesh two decades ago, former Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, Rakesh Tiwari, had highlighted in his paper, 'The origins of iron-working in India: new evidence from the Central Ganga Plain and the Eastern Vindhyas' that by the early 13th century BCE, iron smelting was "definitely known in India on a bigger scale". Iron artefacts, furnaces, and tuyeres, carbon-dated between 1800 and 1000 BCE, were found during the excavations conducted by the U.P. State Archaeological Department at Raja Nala-ka-tila (1996- 98), Malhar (1998-99), and Dadupur (1999-2001), among others. In Malhar, especially, the presence of tuyeres, slags, and finished iron artefacts, hinted at a large-scale manufacturing of iron tools. Collating all the evidence, it was said that iron smelting and manufacturing of iron artefacts were well known in the eastern Vindhyas, and iron may have been in use in the Central Ganga Plain at least from the early second millennium BC.

**What about Tamil Nadu?**

As for Tamil Nadu, several excavations have been underway. In 2022 – before the recent report released by Mr. Stalin pushed back the antiquity of iron – Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district came under the limelight after the Chief Minister placed the introduction of the iron age at 4,200 years ago (third millennium BCE) in the State. He cited the findings of the State Archaeological Department's report titled 'Mayiladumparai- Beginning of Agrarian Society; 4,200-year-old Iron Age Culture in Tamil Nadu', resulting in experts pointing out that this placed the iron age in the State in the same timeline as the copper or bronze age in other parts.

The recently released report by the State Archaeology Department, 'Antiquity of Iron: Recent radiometric dates from Tamil Nadu', attests to this and has pointed out that when cultural zones to the north of Vindhyas experienced the copper age, those in the south might have entered into the iron age already, owing to the limited availability of commercially exploitable copper ore. Target-oriented excavations were initiated by the State Archaeology Department, the Archaeological Survey of India, and others in recent years across places such as Sivagalai, Adichanallur, Kilnamandi and Mayiladumparai in the State to arrive at a panoramic view of the nature of Tamil Nadu's iron age. "Based on the findings, we have placed the date at 3,345 BCE to 2,953 BCE. On taking the mean age of this, we can arrive at the conclusion that iron age on Tamil soil started in the first quarter of the 4th millennium BCE," an archaeology scholar told *The Hindu*, while reiterating that this, however, need not pave the way for assertions that the iron age originated from Tamil soil itself.

With this, the doors of further research into Tamil history and culture have opened up.

## THE GIST

- Releasing a report on the antiquity of iron, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin proclaimed that the iron age began on "Tamil soil".
- The recently released report by the State Archaeology Department, 'Antiquity of Iron: Recent radiometric dates from Tamil Nadu', has pointed out that when cultural zones to the north of Vindhyas experienced the copper age, those in the south might have entered into the iron age already.
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# High Court condemns Revenue official for not entering civil court's injunction order in land records

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the Principal Secretary, Revenue Department, to issue necessary instructions to all Revenue officers to mandatorily enter the injunction orders passed by the civil courts "not to alienate" lands, and ensure reflection of such orders in the "other rights" column of the revenue records of the land in dispute, to prevent further unnecessary litigations.

"Revenue authorities, as custodians of land records, are duty-bound to comply with orders of the civil court and ensure that rights declared by judicial forums are given full effect. Failure to do so would not only amount to wilful disobedience of court orders but would also encourage illegal transactions," the Court observed.

Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum issued the direction while allowing a petition filed by Suvarna of Hennagara village of Jigani hobli in Anekal taluk, Bengaluru.

She had questioned the endorsement given by special tahsildar, Anekal taluk, in refusing to enter in the revenue records an injunction order passed by a civil court, which had directed her opponents not to alienate the land in question during the pendency of a suit for partition filed by her. The tahsildar had refused to enter the civil court's order in revenue records on the reason that State government is not a party in the suit.

## 'Regrettable state of affairs'

Describing the tahsildar's action as "a regrettable state of affairs where revenue authorities had failed to uphold the legal sanctity of an injunction order granted by a competent civil court," the High Court said that this approach of the revenue authorities is legally untenable and needs to be condemned in the strongest possible terms."

The High Court also said that the revenue officials declining to give effect to injunction orders on the premise that they are not parties to the suit defies logic and the fundamental principles of judicial process

"The civil courts grant injunction to prevent irreparable injury, multiplicity of proceedings, and the possibility of third parties getting entangled in prolonged litigation due to unlawful alienation. It is, therefore, imperative that revenue authorities acknowledge and implement such orders to uphold the rule of law," the court observed.

## Critical documents

Revenue records, including the record of rights and tenancy (RTC), serve as critical documents reflecting existing legal rights, and the refusal to incorporate injunction orders merely because revenue officials were not party to the proceedings is an abdication of duty, the High Court said. It added that the tahsildar's reasoning not only undermines the authority of the civil courts but also paves the way for fraudulent transactions and multiplicity of litigations, which the injunction orders seek to prevent.

# Tourism Dept. to unveil digital infrastructure platform

**The Hindu Bureau**
MANGALURU

The Department of Tourism will make its website interactive and will put in place a digital infrastructure platform to promote tourism destinations in Karnataka, director K.V. Rajendra said here on Wednesday.

He was speaking at the coastal Karnataka tourism workshop organised by the department to create awareness about Karnataka's tourism policies and investment opportunities.

Mr. Rajendra said that the digital platform will have details on tourist attractions, tour operators, guides, nearest hotels, resorts, and beaches and the like.

The platform will assist tourists to chalk out a plan before visiting a tourist destination, he said, asking stakeholders to share their tourism products with the department for including in the digital platform.

The director said that 25 tourism themes and 44 tourism products have been identified for government support during the Karnataka Tourism Policy 2024-29 period. Range of subsidies, concessions, and incentives have been identified to steer development in priority areas.

Referring to experiential tourism, he said a calendar of events, including festivals, will be prepared to enable people to plan their trips.

The director said that Karnataka International Travel Expo will be held in Bengaluru from February 26 to 28.

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**
**E-Auction Catalogue No: UBL-PLS-FEB-25 Date: 10.02.2025**
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Auctions for the following works.
**Name of the Work : 1.** Leasing of 3.9/4 ton Parcel space in various Passenger carrying trains over Hubballi Division for a period of two years. **2.** Manning and operations of Cloak Room at Vijayapura Railway Station for a period of two years.
Last date of submission of bid: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 24.02.2025**
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
**Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Hubballi**
PUB/792/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

**Rail Wheel Plant/Bela**
(Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221
**PRE TENDER MEET NOTICE**
**Notice No: RWP-016548-24-00084**
Competent Authority has decided to organise a pre tender meet of prospective bidders for the items detailed below:- **(1) Description:** Supply, erection, testing, commissioning & proving out of 132/11 KV, 10MVA 01 no. addition power transformer at MRS of RWP/Bela with its accessories. This work includes Supply, erection, testing, commissioning of all the items and makes the system synchronize and compatible with existing system of 132/11KV MRS. **(2) Place of Meeting:** RWP/Bela **(3) Date and time:** 03.03.2025 at 14:30 hrs. **(4) Website particulars and address of the office:** For more details kindly visit RWP website **https://rwp.indianrailways.gov.in** or Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, 2nd Floor, Rail Wheel Plant, Bela, Mechanical Branch. Administrative Building, Sitalpur, Saran, Chhapra-841221
**Dy. CME/HQ/RWP/Bela**
**RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2024-25/100**

बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र
Bank of Maharashtra
भारत सरकार का उद्यम
**BENGALURU ZONAL OFFICE**
No. 465/A, First Floor, Opp to NMKRV College, 22nd Cross, 3rd Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560 011.
**PREMISES REQUIRED ON RENT**
Bank of Maharashtra requires suitable premises preferably on Ground Floor with appropriate frontage and sufficient Parking Space on Lease Basis for Opening New Branch. The premises requires as below.

| Centre Name | Dist. Name | Approx Carpet Area Required |
|---|---|---|
| City Market | Bengaluru Urban | 1300 to 1700 Sq. Ft. |
| Basavanagudi | Bengaluru Urban | 1300 to 1700 Sq. Ft. |
| Rajajinagar | Bengaluru Urban | 1300 to 1700 Sq. Ft. |
| Halasuru | Bengaluru Urban | 1300 to 1700 Sq. Ft. |
| Banashankari | Bengaluru Urban | 1300 to 1700 Sq. Ft. |

The proposed premises should be in an approved building conforming to the conditions stipulated by the Govt. Authorities for commercial use. The owner will obtain NOC, if required from the concerned authority/ies for commercial use. Interested owners having clear title to the premises may submit their sealed offers in the prescribed format in two bids system i.e. 1) Technical Bid, 2) Commercial Bid in two separate sealed envelopes and the format of bid can be downloaded from our website **www.bankofmaharashtra.in** under Tender section or can be obtained in person from the above mentioned office address.
Interested owners having clear title over the property may submit their sealed offers in two - bid system by **27/02/2025 time 5:00 PM**. Offers with incomplete details / information and received after last date and time are liable for rejection.
Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reasons what so ever. Offers received from other than owners will not be considered. Offers from brokers will not be considered. For any further details contact us at **gad_ban@mahabank.co.in/staff_ban@mahabank.co.in, Ph. No: 080-29509922; Mob: 9182715121 / 6364853229**
**Offers to be submitted to: The Zonal Manager, Bank of Maharashtra**, Bengaluru Zonal Office, No.465/A, 1st Floor, Opp. to NMKRV College for Women, 22nd Cross, 3rd Block, Jayanagar. Bengaluru-560011.
**Date: 20/02/2025** **Sd/- Zonal Manager**
**Place: Bengaluru** **Bank of Maharashtra, Bengaluru Zone.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
The General Public is hereby put to notice that, **Sri.MUNIRAJU, S/o. late.Sonnappa**, Aged about 72 years, residing at Poojena Agrahara, Kasaba, Hosakote, Bengaluru Rural District 562 114, is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property and he represented that he has lost/misplaced the Original Sale deed dated 30/05/1988, registered as Document No.419/1988-89 in the office of the Sub-registrar, Hosakote, with respect to the Schedule Property. Sri.Muniraju, has lodged a police complaint on 15/02/205, before the Crime Branch, Bengaluru Rural Police Unit, regarding lost/misplaced of above said document.
Further, my client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner **Sri.Muniraju**. If any person/s having any right, title or claims, objections or interest over the Schedule Property may lodge their claims/objections with documentary proof within **7 days** from this day to the undersigned counsel. Failing which, it shall be deemed that there are no claims/objections over the Schedule Property and my client shall proceed with the transaction and complete the sale transaction to purchase the Schedule Property free from all encumbrances by procuring the Certified copies of the aforesaid Sale deed and the same will be construed and considered as the Original for all practical and legal purposes. Any claims received beyond **7 days** will not be considered.
**SCHEDULE**
All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property being Agricultural Land bearing **Sy.No.347/5**, measuring 20 Guntas situated at **Amani-Doddakere Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District** and bounded on:
**East by : Nala**
**West by : Nala**
**North by : Land bearing Sy.No.347/4**
**South by : Land bearing Sy.No.347/6**
**G.V.Sudhakar, Advocate**
No.3 to 8, First Floor
Abhayashrama Complex
4th Cross, Wilson Garden
Bengaluru-560 027

**झारखण्ड सरकार**
**पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, सरायकेला**
**"शुद्धि पत्र"**
P.R. No-346656 Water Resource (24-25)* D
एतद द्वारा सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि ई0 निविदा सूचना संख्या– DWSD/SKL/MVS/29/2024-25 दिनांकः–18.02.2025 को निम्नवत् विवरणी को इस हद तक संशोधित समझा जाय।

| | पूर्व में | संशोधित |
|---|---|---|
| प्राक्कलित राशि | रू0 771.81 लाख | रू0 669.22 लाख |
| अग्रधन की राशि | रू0 7.72 लाख | रू0 6.70 लाख |

पढ़ा जाय। शेष यथावत रहेगी।
**कार्यपालक अभियन्ता**
**पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल**
**सरायकेला**
PR 346810 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 24-25 (D)

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, Lakshmi M Singh W/o R.D. Mohan Singh R/@ No.105, 11th Block, Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560072 do hereby solemnly state that, in my SSLC to Degree Certificates my name is mentioned as LAKSHMI T. After my marriage my name is changed to **LAKSHMI M SINGH** and same has been mentioned in my Aadhaar, Pan card and other documents. I further state that both these names belongs and refers to same person i.e., me only. I further state that I will continue as **LAKSHMI M SINGH** for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 14.02.2025 sworn to Notary S.R. Thulasikrishna.

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**
**Tender Notice No: CAO/CN/BNC/70/2025**
**Dated : 13-02-2025**
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

| Name of the Work | Approx. Value |
|---|---|
| **Bengaluru Division -** Construction of 2 lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 46 (Manned) at Km:78/340 with 1x36m Composite Girder in Mallasandra Yard and Construction of Limited Height Subway of size 5.5x2.5m between Tumakuru - Mallasandra Stations. (Composite Work) **(Tender Ref. No.: ASK-TK-ROB-LC-46R)** | **Rs. 30,40,69,590/-** |

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs on 11-03-2025**
**For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in**
**Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/ Works/Bengaluru Cantonment**
PUB/798/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

**CLASSIFIEDS MART**
**TO ADVERTISE VISIT**
**www.thehinduads.com**
**Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ■ 080-22071826**
**Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ■ 2417580**
**Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ■ 2335700**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട കൊല്ലം IV അഡീഷണൽ ജില്ലാ കോടതി മുമ്പാകെ
2021 ഒ.പി. (സൊസൈറ്റി) 122
**ഹർജികക്ഷികൾ** : Er. ബാബുഷ , മെമ്പർ നമ്പർ.1 ഉളിയാടം, ആശ്രാമം പി.ഒ, കൊല്ലം മു:പേർ 33
**എതിർകക്ഷികൾ** : ശ്രീനാരായണ ഹെൽത്ത്കെയർ സൊസൈറ്റി , രജി. നമ്പർ ക്യൂ 1113/2002,പാങ്ങോട്, കരിമ്പിൻപുഴ പി.ഒ.പുത്തൂർ, കൊല്ലം ടിയ്ക്ക് വേണ്ടി സെക്രട്ടറി എം.എൽ. അനിധരൻ ; മു:പേർ 141
**കൂടുതലായി കക്ഷിചേർത്ത 71,72,73, 74,96,100,112,119,124,126 എതിർകക്ഷികൾ**
1) കൊല്ലം വടക്കേവിള പി.ഒ.യിൽ വെണ്ടർമുക്ക് മഹാത്മാ നഗർ ഹൗസ് നമ്പർ 148 ൽ സജീവ് ഭവനിൽ ബ്രഹ്മാനന്ദൻ സജീവ്
2) തിരുവനന്തപുരം ശ്രീകാര്യം വികാസ് നഗറിൽ VNR-A/01, ശ്രീ ഗണേഷധം വീട്ടിൽ ഡി.വി. അനിൽ കുമാർ
3) കൊല്ലം മയ്യനാട് പി.ഒ.യിൽ കൊപ്രാക്കോട്, മാതൃഛായയിൽ സുരേന്ദ്രൻ സജിത്ത്
4) തിരുവനന്തപുരം അയിരൂർ പാറ പി.ഒ.യിൽ അയിരൂർ പാറ വിദ്യാവിഹാറിൽ ബി.എൻ. വിദ്യാധരൻ
5) കൊല്ലം ആദിച്ചനല്ലൂർ പി.ഒ. യിൽ പ്ലാക്കാട് സജനിയിൽ ജയശങ്കർ ഷാജി
6) കുണ്ടറ മുളവന മുക്കൂട് പി.ഒ.യിൽ മംഗലത്ത് വീട്ടിൽ എം.ഡി. ദിനു
7) ബാംഗ്ലൂർ,മന്ത്രി എലൈറ്റിൽ ഡി 502 ൽ സാംസൺ ചിയോക്കോവ് സോമരാജൻ
8) തിരുവനന്തപുരം വഞ്ചിയൂർ പി.ഒ. യിൽ ഋഷിമംഗലം റ്റി.സി. 1380/1 ശില്പയിൽ അഭിലാഷ് വി.വി.
9) വൈക്കം ഉദയനാരായണപുരം പി.ഒ.യിൽ തോട്ടുപുറത്ത് വീട്ടിൽ ഡോ.എ.ജി.ജിയോ
10) കൊല്ലം തട്ടാമല പി.ഒ.യിൽ ശ്രീ.സന്നിധിയിൽ വി.വി. സന്തോഷ്.
**ടി കേസിലെ കൂടുതൽ 71,72,73,74,96, 100,112,119,124,126 എന്നീ എതിർകക്ഷികളെ തെര്യപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന നോട്ടീസ്**
1955 ലെ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ - കൊച്ചി സാഹിത്യ, ശാസ്ത്രീയ , ധാർമ്മിക സംഘങ്ങൾ രജിസ്റ്റർ ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുള്ള ആക്ട് നമ്പർ 12 പ്രകാരം രജിസ്റ്റർ ചെയ്തു പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്ന ശ്രീനാരായണ ഹെൽത്ത്കെയർ സൊസൈറ്റിയുടെ സുഗമവും കാര്യക്ഷമവുമായ പ്രവർത്തനത്തിന് പര്യാപ്തമായ ഒരു ബൈലാ സ്കീം കോടതി മൂലം ഫ്രെയിം ചെയ്തുകിട്ടുന്നതിനും അപ്രകാരം ഫ്രെയിം ചെയ്യുന്ന ബൈലാ സ്കീം അനുസരിച്ച് ടി സംഘത്തിന്റെ ഭരണം നടത്തുന്നതിന് ഭാരവാഹികളെ കോടതി മൂലം തെരഞ്ഞെടുത്തു കിട്ടുന്നതിനും അനുബന്ധ പരിഹാരങ്ങൾക്കുമായി ബോധിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള മേൽ നമ്പർ കേസ് സംഗതി ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട കോടതിയുടെ പരിഗണനയിൽ ഇരിക്കവെ 28.03.2022 നും 25.11.2022 നും ഇടയിൽ 1-ാം എതിർകക്ഷി സൊസൈറ്റിയിൽ സാധാരണ അംഗങ്ങളായി രജിസ്റ്ററിൽ ചേർത്തുകാണുന്ന വ്യക്തികളെ നിയമാനുസൃതം അംഗങ്ങളാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളതല്ലെന്നും അവർക്ക് അംഗങ്ങളുടെ യാതൊരു അവകാശവും അർഹതയും ലഭിച്ചിട്ടില്ലായെന്നും ; 12.01.2020 ൽ നടന്ന ഭരണസമിതിയിലേക്കുള്ള തെരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പ് നിയമാനുസൃതമല്ലെന്നും അതുമൂലം തെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കപ്പെട്ട ഔദ്യോഗിക ഭാരവാഹികൾക്കും ഭരണസമിതിക്കും ഭരണനിർവ്വഹണത്തിന് അധികാരം ലഭിച്ചിട്ടില്ലായെന്നും പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ച് കിട്ടുന്നതിനും വേണ്ടി ഹർജിക്കാർ അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതും ; ആയത് കൂടി മേൽ നമ്പർ കേസിൽ കോടതിയുടെ പരിഗണനയിലുള്ളതുമാണ്. ടി നമ്പർ കേസിലെ കൂടുതൽ 71,72,73,74,96,100,112,119,124,126 എന്നീ എതിർകക്ഷികളായ നിങ്ങൾക്കു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട കോടതിയിൽ നിന്നും നോട്ടീസ് പരസ്യം ചെയ്തുവരുന്നതിലേക്ക് 05.03.2025 ലേക്ക് അവധി വച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതും ടി നമ്പർ കേസിൽ നിങ്ങൾക്ക് എന്തെങ്കിലും തർക്കമോ ആക്ഷേപമോ ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ആയത് നിങ്ങൾ നേരിട്ടോ ക്രമപ്രകാരം അധികാരപ്പെടുത്തിയ അഭിഭാഷകരോ ഏജന്റോ മൂലമോ അന്നേ ദിവസം പകൽ 11 മണിക്ക് ഈ കോടതി മുമ്പാകെ ഹാജരായി ബോധിപ്പിച്ചു കൊള്ളേണ്ടതും അല്ലാത്തപക്ഷം നിങ്ങൾക്ക് തർക്കമില്ലായെന്ന് കണ്ട് ഹർജി സംഗതി തീർച്ച ചെയ്യുന്നതാണെന്നുള്ള വിവരം ഇതിനാൽ തെര്യപ്പെടുത്തികൊള്ളുന്നു.
കൊല്ലം ഉത്തരവിൻപ്രകാരം,
15.02.2025 ഒപ്പ്
ഹർജികക്ഷികൾക്ക് വേണ്ടി
അഡ്വക്കേറ്റ് പ്രിൻസ് കുമാർ ജി.

**PERSONAL**
**CHANGE OF NAME**
**I, LAKSHMANA** Jayaram, S/o Jayaram Chennappa, R/a No.11, Kuvempu Road, Kammanahalli Main Road, Near Latha Clinic Cross, Ramaswamy Palya, Bengaluru-560033 have changed my name to J Lakshman vide affidavit dt: 17.02.2025 sworn before Notary K.Venkateshan, B'lore

**WE, MR.MANOJ** Kumar D.K. & Smt. Swathi.B.H R/o VMK NAGAR Vinayagapuram Surapet Road Puthagaram, Kolathur, Chennai 600099 Have Changed Our Daughter Name from Mahanya Manoj to Mahanya ManojKumar. Vide Affidavit Dated :01.01.2025.

**I, KARAN** Surendra, S/o Surendra Rajan Bangalore Ganeshan, R/at No.411, 9th Main, Babusapalya Bus Stand, HRBR Layout, 1st Block, Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru-560043, have changed my name from Karan to Karan Surendra vide affidavit dated 19-02-2025 sworn before Notary Y.R.Chandrasekar Bangalore.

**I, ANANTHA** Lakshmi.D, Wife of No.2606876Y, Rank: CHM, Name:Dinesh Kanth.R, residing at Village: No.1779 Next to Subhashini Womens College Cornation Town, Robertsonpet, K G F have changed my name from Anantha Lakshmi.D to Anantha Lakshmi.M. as per my affidavit dated 17-02-2025 duly signed by S.Thangaraj, Notary Govt. of India, K G F.

**LEGAL NOTICE**
**IN THE COURT OF XXIX ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU**
**OS No. 697 OF 2020 (CCH-30)**
Between : **KAVITHA,** D/o Late Rasiklal H Shah, Aged about 49 years, Residing at No. 13/13, 5th Block, 59th Cross, Bhashyam Circle, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru - 560010. **...Plaintiff**
**Vs**
**P BHARAT** **...Defendant**
**SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY PAPER PUBLICATION**
To, **P BHARAT,** Aged about 40 years, Residing at No. 704, Gopal Residency, C Block, Telecom Layout, Bengaluru - 560021.
**Or** United Squares Pvt Ltd, No. 1590, 17th Main Road, 2nd Phase, J P Nagar, Bengaluru - 560078.
**ORDER 5, RULE 20 OF CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION**
**NOTICE / SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT**
**WHEREAS,** the Plaintiff above named has instituted suit for recovery of money for a sum of Rs. 5,00,000/- along with interest at 12% till the realization. Hence, the Defendant is hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court in person, or by a pleader duly instructed, and able to answer all material questions relating to the suit, who shall be accompanied by some person able to answer all such questions, **on the 24.03.2025 at 11 O'clock,** to answer the claim; (and further you are hereby directed to file on that day a written statement of your defense and to produce on the said day all the documents in your possession or power upon which you base your defense or claim for set-off or counter-claim, and where you rely on any other document whether in your possession or power or not, as evidence in support of your defense or claim for-off or counter-claim, you shall enter such documents in a list to be annexed to the written statement).
Take notice that, in default to appearance of Defendant on the day before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 7th day of February, 2025.
**By Order of the Court, Senior Shirastedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru.**
**Address for Service:**
**Aishwarya B Uplaankar,**
No. 11-1802, Vidyanagar, Gulbarga.
Ph No. 8296793225

**TENDERS**
**Rubber Park India (P) Ltd**
*(A Joint Venture of KINFRA & Rubber Board)*
Valayanchirangara, Ernakulam, Kerala-683 556
Expression of Interest is invited from experienced and competent Consultants for developing the Phase II of Rubber Park - Piravanthur, Kollam, Kerala.
**EoI No. RPP/C/EoI/01R3/24**
**Last Date : 12-03-2025**
For more details visit :
**www.rubberparkindia.org** or
contact **484 - 2657218/2655538**

**झारखण्ड सरकार**
**ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग,**
**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय,**
**तृतीय तल्ला, नया समाहरणालय भवन,**
**पपरवाटांड़, गिरिडीह, झारखण्ड – 815301**
**शुद्धि पत्र**
ई–अल्पकालीन पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण संख्या – **29/R1/2024-25/RWD/EE/GIRIDIH** दिनांक **07.02.2025** जिसका **PR No. - 346017** में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्नलिखित संशोधित किया जाता है। जिसके अनुरूप ही निविदा की कार्यवाही सुनिश्चित की जायेगी, जो निम्नवत् है :–
1. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :– **28.02.2025** अपराह्न 0**5.00** बजे तक।
2. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– **03.03.2025** अपराह्न 0**3.30** बजे।
3. निविदा की अन्य नियम एवं शर्ते यथावत रहेंगी।
ह0/–
**PR 346735** कार्यपालक अभियंता
**REO(24-25).D** ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग,कार्य प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा
Bank of Baroda
**Bank of Baroda**
**St. John's Medical College Campus Branch**
**John Nagar, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034. Phone: 080 2553 0145, 2553 5348, E-Mail: stjohn@bankofbaroda.com**
**NOTICE TO BORROWER**
**(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)**
'At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its **Bank of Baroda, St. John's Medical College Campus Branch.** The relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/ documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrowers in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was un-served/not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.
**1.Name and Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor: 1. Mr. Pramod Arehalli Chandregowda,** Residing at Flat No.201, No.11, 3rd Floor, Chowdeshwari Apartment, 2nd A Cross, Banashankari, 3rd Stage, Bangalore-560085.

| Sl No | Nature And Type of Facility | Limit (Rs.) In lakhs | ROI | O/s as on 03.02.2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 01 | Term Loan - Housing Loan 05210600007022 | Rs. 50,00,000/- | 8.60 % | Rs. 50,02,260.00 (inclusive of interest up to 09.01.2025) |
| 02 | Term Loan - Housing Loan 05210600007021 | Rs. 50,00,000/- | 8.60 % | Rs. 50,603,24.68 (inclusive of interest up to 08.01.2025) |
| 03 | Cash Credit 05210500000034 | Rs. 10,00,000/- | 10.40 % | Rs.10,09,737.02 (inclusive of interest up to 31.01.2025) |
| 04 | Car loan 27710600003701 | Rs. 41,74,000/- | 8.85 % | Rs.36,34,603.00 (inclusive of interest up to 03.01.2025) |
| | Total | Rs. 1,51,74,000/- | | Rs. 1,47,06,924.70 |

**Security agreement with brief description of securities:**
**(1)** Property bearing CITB Corporation Door No. 27, situated at 1st stage, A Block, J.P. Nagar, Nachanahalli, Khille Mohalla, Mysore. Description of the apartment Residential apartment bearing No. T-3 on the 3rd floor, in "Amma Residency" Bounded by: East: Flat No.T-4, West by: Property No.26, North By: Road, South by: Lobby.
**(2)** Property bearing CITB Corporation Door No. 27, situated at 1st stage, A Block, J.P Nagar, Nahanahalli, Khille Mohalla, Mysore. Description of the apartment Residential apartment bearing No. T-4 on the 3rd floor, in "Amma Residency" Bounded by: East: Property No.28, West by: Flat No.3, North By: Road, South by: Lobby.
**(3)** Hypothecation of Goods & book debts, Personal guarantee of the borrower.
**(4)** Hypothecation of vehicle- Toyota Fortuner 47.40 lakhs as per quotation, Car registration No. KA05NH3859, Chasis No. MBJAA3GSX00590257062, Engine no. 1GDA724554.
**Amount Outstanding: 1,47,06,924.70** (Rupees One Crore Forty Seven Lakhs Six thousand NIne hundred and Twenty Four and paise seventy Only) **03.02.2025** further interest from that date till payment.
**NPA Date : 02.02.2025** **Demand Notice Date : 03.02.2025**
If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.
**Date : 19.02.2025** **Sd/- Chief Manager,**
**Place : Bengaluru** **Bank of Baroda**

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
SyndicateBank
**(A Government of India Undertaking)**
**Head Office: Bangalore**
**E-Auction Sale of Properties on 11.03.2025**
**Last date of EMD : 10.03.2025**
**ARM-1 Branch, 2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001. Ph: 080-25310066. E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com**
**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described Immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is". "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 11.03.2025 (10.30 AM to 11.00 PM),** through E-Auction underthe Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **(www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.080-25310066, 9627872626, 7483935007 and 9598559920** during office hours on any working day.
The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **10.03.2025 - 5.00 pm** **(₹. in lakhs)**

| Lot No | Name & Address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor | Description of the immovable assets: | Total Dues | a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid | Inspection date & time |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **(1) M/s Pegasi Spirits Pvt. Ltd. (Formerly known as 3 Aces Hospitality Pvt. Ltd.)** through its authorised representatives at Regd. Office - House No. 22, Road No. 62, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi – 110026, Head Office: S K Arcade,, No.33/1, Doddakannali, Carmalaram Post, Sarjapura road,, Bangalore-560035. **(2) Mr. Neeraj Kukreja (Director)** S/o Jagdish Kukreja. **(3) Mrs. Ritika Kukreja (Director)** W/o Neeraj Kukreja **Both 2 & 3 residing at** Villa #151, Adarsh Palm Retreat, Bellandur, Bangalore-560103. **(4) Mr. Jagdish Kukreja (Guarantor)** S/o Kaura Ram Kukreja. **(5) Mrs. Pushpa Kukreja (Guarantor), Both 4 & 5 residing at**: B 1801, Skylark Esta Hoodi, Whitefield, Bangalore - 560048. | Industrial shed at leasehold land of 3 acres and 40 guntas land in Sy.No 119 & Sy.No. 120 in the name of Chowda Reddy address of V Kallahalli, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562125. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 12.9753186, Longitude- 77.6046092** | Rs. 65296836.41/- as on 17.02.2025 with further interest and cost thereon. Symbolic possession | a) ₹. 124.20 b) ₹. 12.42 c) ₹.1.00 | 03.03.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM. with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer |
| | | Machineries and equipment's for Beer manufacturing kept at Sy. No. 119 and 120, V Kallahalli, Sarjapur Road, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562125. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 12.9753186, Longitude- 77.6046092** | | a) 62.00 b) 6.20 c) 1.00 | |
| 2 | **(1) Kwikfix Hospitality Pvt Ltd,** Plot No. 8A, Attibele Industrial Area, Anekal, Bangalore-562107. Also at Plot No.120, Export Promational Industrial Park (EPIP), Whitefield, Bangalore-560066. **(2) Sri Manoj Thyagaraj S/o Thyagaraj K M, (3) Mrs. Judy Sweena Kamal W/o Manoj Thyagaraj, Both are residing at:** Shraddha Tulip, A Block, AECS Layout, Kundanahalli, Whitefield, Bangalore-560037. **(4) Sri Thyagaraj K M,** S/o Sri Muniswamappa, No. 404, 5th Main, 5th Cross,1st Stage, 3rd Block, Bangalore North-560043. **(5) Sri ChristpherJames Alphose** S/o Sri Anthony Swamy, T-3, Adharsha Hotel, 3rd Floor, 1st main Gopala Reddy Layout, Bangalore-560043. | Residential flat No A-3, 3rd Floor of the apartment known as SRADDHA TULIP having super built up area of 2100 Sft. with one covered car parking space and 414 Sft. of UDS in landed property bearing converted Site no. 3, Mahadevapura CMC Katha no. 448, and converted site bearing nos. 4 & 5, Mahadevapura CMC Katha no. 449, situated at Jayaram Reddy Layout Kundalahalli Village, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk measuring 5040 Sft. standing in the name of Smt Judy Sweena Kamal Value at Sanction: ₹. 151.60 Coordinates of the property, **Latitude- 12.57565N, Longitude- 77.42460E** | Rs.132786092.06 as on 17.02.2025 with further interest and cost thereon. Symbolic possession | a) ₹. 166.86 b) ₹. 16.69 c) ₹.1.00 | 03.03.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM. with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer |
| 3 | **(1) M/s Nature Home Care Products, (2) Sri. G K Ramachandra** S/o Late Krishanppa, **Both are residing at:** No. #43, 1st Main Valagerhalli, Kengeri, Near Chithrakoota School, Bangalore-560056. **Current address: Sri. G K Ramachandra,** No.#06, 1st Main, 9th Cross, MTS Layout, K S Town Opp: Bethesda High, Bangalore-560050. | Property bearing site No. 8/4A, assessment No. 24/1 Valagerahalli Village Katha No. 49, measuring East to West 80 feet and North to south 60 feet, Totally measuring 1800 Sq.ft, Situated at Kengri, Kengri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Presently comes under the limits of BBMP, Bengaluru. East: Private Property, West: Private Property, North: Road, South: Private Property. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 12.9331210, Longitude- 77.4950220.** | Rs. 29351861.25 as on 17.02.2025 with further interest and cost thereon. Symbolic possession | a) ₹. 185.00 b) ₹. 18.50 c) ₹.1.00 | 03.03.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM. with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer |
| 4 | **(1) Smt. B K Prema** W/o T Varadaraju ,Nallu Village, Hanumanahalli Post, Mulbagal Taluk, Kolar Ddistrict-563127. **(2) Sri Varadaraj T** S/o Thimmarayappa, Nallur Village, Hanumanhalli Post,Mulbagal Taluk,Kolar District-563127. **(3) Shri Raghu K** S/o G Krishanappa Opp. to APMC Yard, St. Annes School Main Road, Mulbagal, Kolar District-563131. | Vacant Land Site No.145/4 of Nallur Village, Duggasandra Hobli, Mulabagal Taluk, Kolar District. Total Extent of the land is 1 acre 37 Guntas. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.165667, Longitude- 78.268833** | Rs. 42164390.26 as on 17.02.2025 with further interest and cost thereon. Symbolic possession | a) ₹. 79.69 b) ₹. 7.97 c) ₹.1.00 | 03.03.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM. with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer |
| | | Vacant Land Site No.44 old Khata No. 9913/1, PID No. 30-9-3K Sy No. 32/1A, Shivakeshavanagar, Sonnavadi Village , Kasaba Hobli, Mulbagal Taluk, Kolar District.Total extent of the land 1200 Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 13.155463, Longitude- 78.406282** | | a) ₹. 8.20 b) ₹. 0.82 c) ₹.1.00 | |
| | | Vacant Land Site No.65 Old Khata No.9913/1 PID No. 30-9-3K Sy.No. 32/1A Shivakeshavanagar, Sonnavadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mulabagal Taluk, Kolar District. Total extent of the land 1200 Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.155571, Longitude- 78.406607** | | a) ₹. 8.20 b) ₹. 0.82 c) ₹.1.00 | |
| | | Vacant Land Site No.19 & 20 Old Khata No.9913/1 PID No. 30-9-3K Sy.No. 32/1A Shivakeshavanagar, Sonnavadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mulabagal Taluk, Kolar District. Total extent of the land 2400 Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.155598, Longitude- 78.406136** | | a) ₹. 16.41 b) ₹. 1.64 c) ₹.1.00 | |
| | | Land and Building Site No.135/1 of Dugasandra Hobli, Mulabagal Taluk, Kolar District. Total Extent of the land 1 acres 37 Guntas and Total Extent of the Plot 1.925 acres. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.162750, Longitude- 78.267083** | | a) ₹. 213.71 b) ₹. 21.37 c) ₹.1.00 | |

**Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.**
**For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 9627872626,7483935007,9538406090 and 9598559920 during office hours on any working day.**
**Place: Bengaluru Date :18.02.2025** **Sd/- Authorised Officer, Canara Bank**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

**Enduring legacy:** Prime Minister A.B. Vajpayee with Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen, after the latter received the Bharat Ratna at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on February 16, 1999. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

# Theory and practice: the ethical core in Amartya Sen's Weltanschauung

As a student in Shantiniketan, the Nobel Laureate would ride to the villages on his bicycle and examine the Santhals' lives, their struggle and deprivation. His entire worldview was nourished by the bond between ethics and economics, an important lesson to remember in today's world

Subhoranjan Dasgupta

Years ago, I asked the legendary teacher of economics, Professor Bhabatosh Datta, "Sir, What, according to you, is the focal point in the 'economics' thinking of your legendary student, Amartya Sen, who is not only revered as a superb social scientist but also as a profound philosopher ?" After pausing for a second, Professor Datta replied, "Economics to Amartya is like it was to Alfred Marshall – a handmaiden of ethics and a servant of practice". When I reported this evaluation to the Nobel Laureate student, he replied, almost overwhelmed with emotion, "How can I ever repay my debt to that great teacher ?"

Bhabatoshbabu was unerring in his estimate. From his adolescence, Sen was wedded to 'practice'. While he was a student of Patha Bhavan in Shantiniketan, he used to ride his bicycle and spend hours in the contiguous villages inhabited by Adivasis. He examined assiduously their quotidian lives, their struggle and deprivation. He handed over the bicycle to the Swedish Academy and it is now displayed in the Nobel Museum. Stressing the worth of this simplest vehicle, Sen wrote in his memoir *Home in the World*, "This bicycle had been with me since my schooldays. I had used the bike not only to collect data on wages and prices from inaccessible places, such as old farmsheds and warehouses, when studying the Bengal Famine of 1943, but also to transport the machine to weigh boys and girls up to the ages of five to neighbouring villages from Shantiniketan to examine gender discrimination and the gradual emergence of the relative deprivation of girls". That was his praxis when he was only a schoolgoer.

**A moral question**

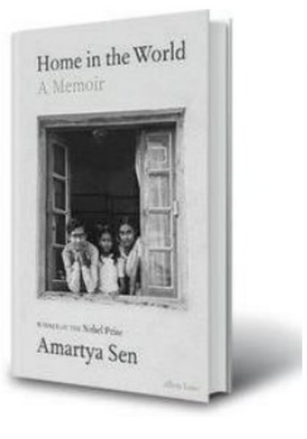
Is it then surprising that this 'committed' teenager would explore later as a researcher the intrinsic relationship between ethics or moral philosophy and economics? His entire worldview was nourished by the bond between the two, hence my first question to him on a cold, wintry night at Pratichi (the name of his house in Shantiniketan), was "Experts and laymen agree that you have gone beyond the accepted boundaries of your discipline, namely economics, and have penetrated into the realm of philosophy or ethics. Do you think this journey led to an epistemological break ?"

His answer was crystal-clear, "We need to recall that the subject of modern economics began in a very ambitious way with Adam Smith seeing economics as a part of a moral and practical philosophy. That seems to be the right perspective in which to see economics today... Indeed, many of the economic problems dealing with human welfare today, which, after all, is the basic motivation for all economics, clearly have philosophical dimensions that cannot be avoided. So, I wouldn't consider it to be a radical epistemological break but an urgent return to the very foundations."

The inexorable progress from this ethical stratum to the formulation of his leitmotif, namely the theory of Social or Moral Choice, was spontaneous. Deliberating on this crucial cogitation which fetched him the Nobel Prize in 1998, he stressed, "First, this subject enjoys a 200-year old tradition going back to the writings of Bentham, Borda and Condorcet. Second, in recent years, it has been immensely developed by Kenneth Arrow who gave it a systematic, mathematical format and posed some crucial problems which led to 'impossible results.' Third, I tried to deal with some of these 'impossibilities' and I proposed some solutions. Fourth, I found out that the format of Social Choice crossed the very narrow limits posed by utilitarianism and voting theories. Fifth, I must say that it played a major part in my understanding of the world".

**A critic of utilitarianism**

His sharp critique of utilitarianism led to the next query: "If not John Stuart Mill, which economist or philosopher would you revere as the most eloquent exponent of our fundamental quest, our journey 'from the realm of necessity to the realm of freedom'? His answer came like a cascade, "I affirm that Marx has discussed the issue most illuminatingly than any other economist. He was, of course, much more than an economist. In fact, in the Marxian valuation system, freedom in the positive sense, has a clear role which it does not quite have in any of the other standard moral philosophical system. I greatly value the redemptive and ethical vision of Marx."




It is this indispensable principle of ethics and related practice that inspired Sen to discover appropriate correlatives in other disciplines. He told me more than once that he attached an inestimable worth to Immanuel Kant because his philosophy was embedded in ethical or 'moral' (that is Kant's expression) engagement. His advice was, "Read Kant's The Moral Law and his Critique of Pure Reason minutely. No other Western philosopher before him cemented ethics with reason in the way he has."

**Justice over rules**

Similarly, he cherishes a pronounced love for the unforgettable Sanskrit play *Mudrarakhasa* by Sudraka because here the protagonist Charudatta and his consort, the dazzling Vasantasena, advocate the supremacy of nyaya or ethical justice while evaluating human conduct. In his words, "I interpreted Charudatta's priority to be the pursuit of nyaya, seeking a good world in which we can live with fairness, rather than obey the niti of fixed rules." (Memoirs, Page 101). No doubt this emphasis on ethics impels him to hit the nail on the head in our age of infinite conundrum and incessant conflict. Almost in the manner of infallible Euclid, he concludes, "All perceptible problems of the world originate from one form of inequality or another." Sen, here is not indulging in any reductionism. Rather, he is positing the ineradicable essence of all human endeavour and aspiration.

His devotion to moral praxis helps us to scissor our countless cobwebs and we recall the consummate tribute paid by Nadine Gordimer, "Sen is one of the few great world intellectuals on whom we may rely to make sense out of our existential confusion."

*Subhoranjan Dasgupta, former Professor of Human Sciences, is an academic and writer based in Kolkata.*

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

## Gyanesh Kumar took charge as the 26th Chief Election Commissioner of India. Here is a quiz on the regulators of the democratic process

Vighnesh P. Venkitesh

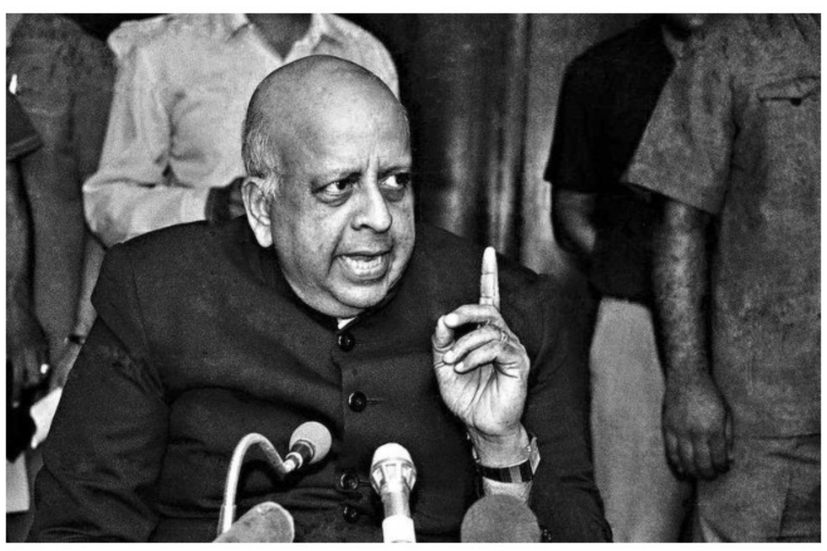
**QUESTION 1**
The Election Commission initially just had the post of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) from its inception till a short-lived expansion in 1989. Since when did the three-member body became a permanent feature?

**QUESTION 2**
Name the mathematician who served as the first Election Commissioner of Independent India.

**QUESTION 3**
Apart from being the first and only woman to serve as CEC, what other distinction does V. S. Ramadevi's tenure hold?

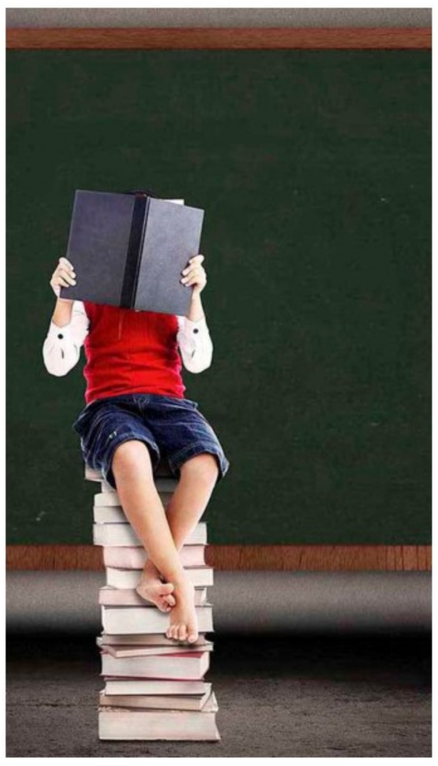
**QUESTION 4**
The NOTA option was introduced under whose tenure as CEC?

**QUESTION 5**
Who has served as CEC for the longest tenure?



**Visual question:**
Name this bureaucrat who is often credited with reforming the poll body. PTI

**Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:** 1. Shivaji belonged to this clan before he carved out his own independent kingdom. **Ans: Bhonsle clan**
2. This battle took place in November 1659, in Satara, between the Maratha forces led by Shivaji and the Bijapur troops under General Afzal Khan. **Ans: Battle of Pratapgarh**
3. This treaty was signed between Shivaji and Jai Singh in 1665, after the battle fought between the Mughal Empire and the Marathas. **Ans: Treaty of Purandar**
4. In the mid–19th century, this Marathi social reformer wrote his interpretation of the Shivaji legend, portraying him as a hero of the Dalits. **Ans: Jyotirao Phule**
5. Shivaji used this weapon against his encounter with Afzal Khan. **Ans: Wagh nakh**
Visual: The location of this statue. **Ans: Rajkot Fort**
**Early Birds:** C. Saravanan| Erfanally Oosmany| Patrick Vijayan| Sadhan K. Panda| Anju Sharma



FROM THE ARCHIVES

## *Know Your English*

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"Let's listen to some music."
"We can't."
"Why not?"
"The cassette player has conked out."
"It's what?"
"Conked out. Conk rhymes with 'honk'. When you say that something has 'conked out,' it means it has broken down or stopped working. For example, the car finally conked out yesterday."
"Our telephone keeps conking out every other day."
"Excellent example."
"Tell me, this expression 'conk out,' can it be used with people as well? Or is it only used with machines?"
"It can be used with both people and machines. When used with people, it means 'become exhausted and stop; fall asleep, faint or die.' On Sundays, I conk out for an hour after lunch."
"Meaning you sleep for an hour after lunch."
"That's right."
"Can I say my grandfather conked out in 1960?"
"You can. But you must remember that 'conk out' is an informal expression and cannot be used in all situations."
"I see, Now that your exams are over, how do you feel?"
"Pretty stressed out actually."
"Stressed out? What does it mean?"
"If you say you're stressed out, it means you're extremely tired or exhausted due to stress. For example, I can say, Mohan was stressed out after completing his six assignments."
"So when you say you're stressed out, it means you're tired mentally, rather than physically. Is that correct?"
"Yes, that's usually the case."
"I see. Is this expression used often?"
"Oh yes. Particularly in American English. You often hear students saying they are stressed out."
"If Mala knew about this expression, she would use it all the time. I tell you that girl is hopeless. She thinks she..."
"Stop dumping on Mala all the time."
"What do you mean by 'dump on'?"
"One of the meanings of 'dump on' is to criticise someone severely. For example, the Prime Minister dumped on the opposition party last week."
"The political parties keep dumping on one another all the time. But tell me, is it ok to say Rao's latest film was dumped on?"
"You most certainly can. Hey, where are you going?"
"Home. I think I'm going to dump on my sister."
*Published in The Hindu on July 11, 1995.*

## Word of the day

**Explicate:**
make plain and comprehensible; elaborate on theories and hypotheses

Synonyms: explain, develop, formulate

Usage: *His teacher explicated the complex theory to him.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/explicatepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈɛk.splɪˌkeɪt/

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ADVERTISEMENT

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

# MADHYA PRADESH
# Unlocking Investment Potential Across Key Sectors for Unprecedented Growth!

Dr. Mohan Yadav
Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh

## Madhya Pradesh Unveils Ambitious Logistics and Energy Policies

In a bid to unlock investment potential across key sectors, the Madhya Pradesh government, led by Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, has announced two ground breaking policies: the Logistics Policy 2025 and the City Gas Distribution (CGD) Policy 2025

### LOGISTICS POLICY 2025:

#### Boosting Trade and Infrastructure:

The Logistics Policy 2025 aims to enhance infrastructure, reduce costs, and boost trade in the state. Key focus areas include lowering container transport costs, expanding truck parking, and developing a multimodal transport system. By 2030, Madhya Pradesh aims to meet global logistics standards through digital integration and innovation.

Investors will benefit from financial incentives, including up to Rs. crore for logistics parks and Rs. 25 crore for air cargo terminals. A single-window clearance system and improved connectivity will further facilitate business operations, positioning Madhya Pradesh as a premier logistics hub driving economic growth.

#### City Gas Distribution (CGD) Policy 2025:

#### Expanding Clean Energy

The CGD Policy 2025 aims to provide clean, affordable energy for homes, industries, and vehicles. The policy targets the expansion of PNG and CNG networks, with 55-60 lakh PNG connections and 1,207 CNG stations planned. Investments in LNG, LCNG hubs, and city gate stations will enhance infrastructure, while a single-window clearance system will fast-track approvals.

To promote CNG adoption, the policy offers a 1% lifetime motor vehicle tax exemption. With proactive governance, Madhya Pradesh is poised to become a leading clean energy hub, driving sustainable growth and development.

#### Madhya Pradesh Unveils Ambitious Semiconductor Policy to Become India's Next Hub

In a significant move to bolster its economy and establish itself as a major player in the semiconductor industry, the Madhya Pradesh government, led by Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, has announced the Madhya Pradesh Semiconductor Policy-2025. This comprehensive policy aims to attract investments, generate exports, and create jobs, positioning Madhya Pradesh as India's next semiconductor hub.

#### Investor-Friendly Incentives

The policy offers a range of attractive incentives to investors, including:

**Capital Subsidy:** Up to 40% (Rs. 150 crore max) to support project development

**Interest Subsidy:** 6% interest subsidy for five years to reduce financial burdens

**Concessional Land:** Affordable land options to facilitate project setup

**Power Tariff Subsidy:** Rs. 2 per unit power tariff subsidy for ten years to reduce operational costs

#### Additional Benefits for Large-Scale Projects

Projects exceeding Rs. 400 crore will receive additional benefits, further incentivizing large-scale investments.

#### POLICY OBJECTIVES

The Madhya Pradesh Semiconductor Policy-2025 aims to:

**Attract Rs. 2,700 crore in investments**

**Generate Rs. 3,782 crore in exports**

**Create 14,400 jobs**

With its streamlined regulations and investor-friendly incentives, Madhya Pradesh is poised to become a leading semiconductor hub in India, driving economic growth and development

#### Madhya Pradesh Government Approves Export Promotion Policy 2025

In a significant move to boost exports and strengthen its logistics infrastructure, the Madhya Pradesh government has approved the Export Promotion Policy 2025. This comprehensive policy aims to reduce container transport costs, enhance material handling, and develop a multimodal transport system, aligning the sector with global benchmarks by 2030.

#### Madhya Pradesh Takes Leap in Drone Technology with New Policy

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav has unveiled the Drone Promotion and Use Policy-2025, aiming to establish the state as a hub for drone manufacturing and technology. This move is expected to boost innovation, create jobs, and drive economic growth in the state.

#### KEY INITIATIVES

**Drone Data Repository:** A centralized repository to store and manage drone-related data

**Drone Schools:** Institutions dedicated to providing training and education on drone technology

**Financial Incentives:** Subsidies and stipends to support drone-related projects and initiatives

**Drone Courses:** Specialized courses to be introduced in polytechnics, ITIs, and engineering colleges

The policy is expected to attract Rs. 370 crore in investments and create 8,000 jobs, with a focus on driving technological advancements in key sectors such as agriculture, disaster management, and infrastructure.

As part of the government's efforts to promote entrepreneurship and innovation, this move is seen as a significant step towards creating a conducive environment for startups and businesses to thrive in Madhya Pradesh.

## MP GOVT. LAUNCHES INDUSTRIAL POLICY 2025: Aims to Drive Growth, Create Jobs

In a bid to establish itself as India's premier investment destination, the Madhya Pradesh government, led by Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, has approved the Industrial Promotion Policy (IPP) 2025. This comprehensive initiative aims to accelerate economic growth, generate employment, and attract large-scale investments in the state.

#### KEY OBJECTIVES

- Generate 20 lakh jobs in five years and increase GDP to Rs. 6 lakh crore by 2030.
- Transform Madhya Pradesh into a developed state by 2047.
- Boost industrial GDP contribution from Rs. 2.9 lakh crore to Rs. 6 lakh crore.

#### POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

The IPP 2025 has allocated a massive Rs. 1,400 crore budget over five years, offering lucrative opportunities for investors. The policy prioritizes sustainable infrastructure, skill development, and ease of doing business.

- **Sustainable Infrastructure:** Incentives of up to Rs. 10 crore for waste management, renewable energy, and zero liquid discharge (ZLD) facilities
- **Industrial Housing:** Supported by up to 40% Viability Gap Funding (VGF) under the PPP model
- **Employment and Skill Development:** Special incentives for hiring differently-abled individuals

The IPP 2025 is set to be showcased at the upcoming Global Investors Summit (GIS) 2025, scheduled for February 24-25 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. With its pro-business reforms and modernized policies, Madhya Pradesh is poised to become India's next major industrial and investment destination.

#### KEY OBJECTIVES OF IPP 2025

- **Ecosystem Expansion:** Enhance the state's industrial ecosystem through infrastructure development and skill enhancement.
- **Employment Generation:** Create 20 lakh new job opportunities over the next five years.
- **Regulatory Simplification:** Streamline regulations to ensure transparent and hassle-free business operations.
- **Foreign Investment and Sectoral Growth:** Attract foreign investment and promote industries in high-potential sectors.

#### INVESTMENT INCENTIVES AND ELIGIBILITY

**Large-Scale Industries:** Investments above ₹125 crore or annual turnover exceeding Rs. 500 crore.

**Mega Industries:** Investments of Rs. 500 crore or more.

D16117/24

The ecosystem, industry friendly policies and support from the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh has been incredible. We will be opening our new plant in the state this year.

**Mr. Vipul Mathur**
Managing Director & CEO, Welspun Corp

I warmly welcome investors, industry leaders, and stakeholders to the Global Investors Summit 2025. Inspired by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047, Madhya Pradesh is unlocking growth through progressive policies and sustainable development.

With abundant resources, robust infrastructure, and a vibrant workforce, the state is fostering progress across key sectors like manufacturing, IT, and renewable energy, propelling India towards becoming a global economic powerhouse.

**Dr. Mohan Yadav**
*Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh*

## Lights, Camera, MP! Unveils Film Tourism Policy 2025

In a significant move to establish Madhya Pradesh as a leading film production hub in India, the state government, led by Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, has introduced the Film Tourism Policy 2025. This comprehensive policy aims to attract domestic and international filmmakers, create employment opportunities, and showcase the state's rich cultural heritage and breathtaking landscapes on the global stage.

Madhya Pradesh has already earned the reputation as the "Most Film-Friendly State," with over 350 successful film projects completed. The new policy seeks to build on this momentum by simplifying the filming approval process, encouraging local talent, and providing financial incentives to boost the film industry.

"The Film Tourism Policy 2025 will not only attract investments but also generate employment and position Madhya Pradesh as India's premier filming hub," said Dr. Yadav. "Our state is a treasure trove of history, culture, and natural beauty, making it an ideal destination for filmmakers."

The policy is expected to create a favorable ecosystem for film production, promoting tourism and economic growth in the state. With its rich cultural heritage, stunning landscapes, and investor-friendly policies, Madhya Pradesh is poised to become a hub for film production and tourism in India.



## Rolling Out Sector-Specific Policies to Boost Growth

The Madhya Pradesh government has announced a slew of sector-specific policies to drive growth and investment in key areas.

#### AGRICULTURE, DAIRY, AND FOOD PROCESSING POLICY

- Electricity tariff reimbursement of Rs. 1 per unit for 5 years
- 50% quality certification cost reimbursement (up to Rs. 5 lakh)

#### TEXTILE POLICY

5% interest subsidy on term loans for plant & machinery (up to Rs. 50 crore) for 5 years

25% financial assistance (up to Rs. 50 lakh) for apparel training institutes

#### APPAREL, FOOTWEAR, TOYS, AND ACCESSORIES POLICY

Rs. 5,000 per employee per month for 5 years to boost job creation

Rs. 13,000 per new employee for training over 5 years

5% interest subsidy on term loans (up to Rs. 50 crore)

#### AEROSPACE AND DEFENSE PRODUCTION PROMOTION POLICY

25% concession on development fees

50% quality certification reimbursement (up to Rs. 10 lakh)

#### PHARMACEUTICALS POLICY

50% capital grant (up to Rs. 1 crore) for setting up testing facilities

These policies aim to attract investments, create jobs, and drive growth in key sectors.

## Madhya Pradesh Announces Lucrative Subsidies to Boost Film Industry

In a bid to establish itself as a hub for filmmaking, the Madhya Pradesh government has unveiled a range of subsidies to attract producers and filmmakers. The incentives are designed to promote filmmaking in the state, with a focus on local languages, women-centric films, and children's cinema.

#### Subsidy Highlights

- Feature Films: Up to Rs. 2 crore
- Web Series: Up to Rs. 1.5 crore
- TV Shows: Up to Rs. 1 crore
- International Films: Up to $1.3 million ( Rs. 10 crore)
- Short Films: Up to Rs. 15 lakh

Additionally, the state government has introduced a Single Window System to facilitate fast-track approvals under the Public Service Guarantee Act. This move aims to simplify the filming process and reduce bureaucratic hurdles.

#### Special Incentives

- 10% additional subsidy for films in local languages like Malvi, Bundelkhandi, and Nimari
- Incentives for women-centric films and children's cinema
- Support for historical and culturally significant films

These subsidies and incentives are expected to attract filmmakers from across the country and establish Madhya Pradesh as a preferred destination for film production.

## Madhya Pradesh Unveils Tourism Policy 2025 to Boost Investment and Growth

In a bid to transform the region into a premier tourist destination, the Madhya Pradesh government has announced the Tourism Policy 2025. This comprehensive policy aims to enhance the state's cultural, historical, and natural heritage, creating a favorable ecosystem for investment and tourism.

#### KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE POLICY

**Public-Private Partnerships (PPP):** The policy promotes PPP models, offering 15-30% capital subsidies for large-scale projects, including:

- **Heritage hotels**
- **Wellness resorts**
- **Ropeways and Amusement parks**

**Rural Tourism:** Focus on developing rural tourism infrastructure to promote local cultures and traditions

**Skill Development:** Emphasis on training and skill development programs for tourism professionals Safety Measures: Enhanced safety protocols to ensure a secure and enjoyable experience for tourists

With its investor-friendly environment, improved infrastructure, and focus on sustainable tourism practices, the Tourism Policy 2025 is set to attract global tourists and boost economic growth in the region.

# J.C. Road white-topping hits motorists, businesses

**Sreshaja J.R.**
BENGALURU

The ongoing white-topping work on J.C. Road has become a major traffic bottleneck. Being a key connector between south Bengaluru and the city's central areas, the chaotic condition has made daily commute a nightmare for motorists while shopkeepers rue that business has been hit.

The white-topping work is being carried out from Minerva Circle to Town Hall covering a stretch of approximately 1.5 km. The work, which began a month ago, has led to severe vehicular pile-up, particularly during peak hours.

**Health hazard**

"For a daily commuter, it's very difficult to travel. Normally, it takes five to seven minutes to cover the short distance from Minerva Circle to Town Hall, but due to this work, it's taking over 15 minutes," said Ajay Prakash, a daily commuter.

The ongoing white-topping work on J.C. Road.

Bharathi S., a resident of Chennamanakere Achukattu who travels to work in the Central Business District, said her auto rides had become a health hazard due to the dust apart from the additional 15 minutes needed to navigate the stretch.

Motorists have been struggling to navigate the narrow, dug-up, and barricaded stretch while shopkeepers in the area are feeling the heat due to reduced customer footfall.

"Because of the white-topping, vehicles can't reach the shop. Our daily business has dipped due to loss of customers. Furthermore, the ongoing work is causing excessive dust to enter our shop," said Abdul Rahman, a worker at a tyre shop.

**No vehicle movement**

"For the white-topping, they dug up the area in front of my shop, started the work, then stopped midway. After 10-15 days, they came back and resumed work. For the past few days, not a single vehicle could move smoothly due to the traffic," said Syed Muneer, another shopkeeper.

Traffic police claim that ensuring smooth flow of vehicles has become a struggle. "The heavy traffic is making our work more difficult than usual".

B.S. Prahlad, Chief Engineer, BBMP, said the white-topping work is expected to be completed by May 31.

# 3 held for smuggling foreign currency

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Officials of the Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bengaluru Zonal Office on Wednesday arrested three persons, including two Sri Lankan nationals, allegedly trying to smuggle foreign currency totalling ₹2.12 crore.

The accused, identified as Vimalraj Thuraisingam, accompanied by another Sri Lankan national, Thileepan Jayanthikumar, and one Indian national, Veera Kumar were arrested, the ED officials said.

All three of them were attempting to fly to Colombo by a Sri Lankan Airlines flight along with the currency. Based on a tip-offthe ED team searched Vimalraj Thuraisingam and also examined the others.

## *In memory of*

BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra and others paying respects to Chhatrapati Shivaji on the occasion of his birth anniversary, in Bengaluru on Wednesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Residential building tilts at Thippsandra, no one injured

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A residential building in Thippasandra in East Bengaluru tilted and the occupants had a narrow escape on Wednesday evening.

The incident occurred around 4.58 p.m. as the building started crumbling due to ongoing basement work at the adjacent site. The occupants felt the building trembling and rushed out to safety.

Two fire tenders along with one NDRF team rushed to the spot and evacuated the residents to prevent further damage. The Jeevan Bima Nagar policesupervised the rescue operations. The police have informed the owner of the building, living in Chennai, and necessary action will be taken, a police official said.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike in a release said the incident occurred due to excavation of approximately five feet for a new building's foundation in an adjacent vacant plot. "This weakened the soil, leading to the tilting of the ground floor of a nearby 40-year-old (G+3) structure. The building tilted towards the construction site," the release said.

The tilted building at Thippasandra.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Residents of the affected building and neighbouring houses have been evacuated as a precautionary measure.


**PUBLIC NOTICE**

My client proposes to purchase the Schedule Properties from **M.L.Mukund Gowda S/o. Sri.M.L.Linge Gowda,** aged about 51 years, residing at No.23/1, 10th 'A' Main Road, 1st Block, Jayanagar, Begnaluru-560011. I am investigating the title of the Schedule Properties. Any person/s having any manner of claims/objections for the proposed purchase of the Schedule Properties, may lodge their claim/s, objection/s, with the undersigned, with documentary evidence within Fifteen (15) days from the date of this publication. Any claims/ objections received thereafter will not be binding on my client and my client will proceed to purchase the Schedule Properties as if there are no claims/ objections.

**SCHEDULE - PROPERTY**

**Item No.1:** All that piece and parcel of dry Agricultural Dry Land in Sy.No.219, measuring to an extent of 1.00 Acre 20 Guntas, situated at Kanchugaranahalli Village Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on: **East by:** Land belonging to Sri.Raju son of Sri.Veerappa; **West by:** Land belonging to Sri.Kalaiah; **North by:** Land belonging to Sri.H.C.Rajanna; **South by:** Road.

**Item No.2:** All that piece and parcel of dry Agricultural Dry Land in Sy.No.301, measuring to an extent of 1.00 Acre 10 Guntas, situated at Kanchugaranahalli Village Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on: **East by:** Land belonging to Sri.H.M.Jayakumar; **West by:** Land belonging to Sri.Kalaiah; **North by:** Land belonging to Allalasandra Village Border; **South by:** Government Road.

**Item No.3:** All that piece and parcel of dry Agricultural Dry Land in Sy.No.220, measuring to an extent of 4.00 Acres 19 Guntas, excluding 2 Guntas of kharab, situated at Kanchugaranahalli Village Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on: **East by:** Land belonging to Sri.Kanthppa; **West by:** Land belonging to Sri.Kalaiah; **North by:** Allalasandra Village Border; **South by:** Land belonging to Sri. Erareddy.

**Y.S.H.Reddy, Advocate**
**No.503, 1st Floor, Sai Leela Suites,**
**1st Main, 7th Cross, H.M.T.Layout,**
**Parallel to 80 Feet Road, R.T.Nagar,**
**Bengaluru- 560 032. Mobile: 98863 78570.**



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**
MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES (BANKING DIVISION)
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL II - BENGALURU**
Telephone House Building, Raj Bhavan Road, Bangalore- 560001.

RC No. 35/2020 Date: 17.02.2025 — REGISTERED A/D / DASTI / AFFIXATION / BEAT OF DRUM — FORM NO. 22 [See Regulation – 37(1)]

**PROCLAMATION OF SALE-CUM E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**
**RC NO. 35 of 2020 IN OA NO. 205 of 2019**

**PROCLAMATION OF SALE UNDER RULES 38, 52(2) OF THE SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME-TAX 1961, READ WITH THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY Act, 1993**
**BETWEEN**
**CANARA BANK (Now ARM-I Branch, Bengaluru)**
**AND**
**M/S SIDDHI FREEZERS & EXPORTERS PVT. LTD. AND OTHERS.**

Certified Debtor :-

**1. M/s Sri Siddhi Freezers and Exporters Private Limited,** Office at church road Gangulli village & post, Gangulli – 576 216, Kundapura Taluk, Udupi District, **Rep by its Managing Director : 2. Mr. Ramu N. Chandan, Since deceased rep by his L.Rs, a) Mrs. Sumathi R.Chandan (LR of D2), b) Mr. Rajesh R. Chandan (LR of D2), c) Mrs. Pushpa R. Bangere (LR of D2), d) Mrs. Vidyavathi R. Chandan (LR of D2), 3. Mr. Rajesh R. Chandan (son of D2), 4.Mrs. Sumathi R Chandan (wife of D2),** 2 (a to d), D3 & D4 all R/ at – A301-304, Vardhaman Nagar R.P Road, Mulund West, Mumbai - 80.

WHEREAS, you have failed to pay total sum of debt amount of **Rs. 17,98,75,023.92/- (Rupees Seventeen Crores Ninety Eight Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Twenty Three and Ninety Two Paisa Only)** is due against the certified debtor, namely, **M/s Siddhi Freezers and Exporters Pvt. Ltd.**, and others along with interest and costs from the date of filing O.A. till realization of the Recovery Certificate. **(RC: 35/2020) in O.A No.205/2019** issued by the Presiding Officer, **Debt Recovery Tribunal -II.** And whereas the undersigned has ordered the sale of the property mentioned in the schedule below in satisfaction of the said certificate.

AND WHEREAS, there will be due there under a sum of **Rs. 47,12,48,370.33 including costs and interest as on 01.02.2025** with future interest till realization accrued to the sum mentioned above.

NOTICE is hereby given that in the absence of any order of postponement, the said property shall be sold on **27.03.2025 between 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM** (with auto extension clause in case of bid received in last 5 minutes before closing)by e-auction and bidding shall take place through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website **https://www.bankeauctionwizard.com** of **M/s. e-Procurement Technologies Limited, Bangalore**

**For further details contact: Helpline No. 080-49352000, : Mr Praveenkumar Thevar, Contact No. 9265562818, 9265562821, E-mail ID: Praveen.thevar@auctiontiger.nt OR Support@auctiontiger.net. For ascertaining the details of property and also for the inspection of the property.**

The sale will be of the properties of the defendants above named, as mentioned in the schedule below and the liabilities and claims attaching to the said property, so far as they have been ascertained, are those specified in the schedule.

The property will be put up for sale in single lot specified in the schedule if the amount to be realized is satisfied by the sale of a portion of the property the sale shall be immediately stopped with respect the reminder. The sale also be stopped if before any lot is knocked down, the arrears mentioned in the said certificate interest cost (including cost of sale) are rendered to the officer conducting the sale or proof is given to his satisfaction that amount of such certified interest and cost have been paid to the undersigned.

No officer or other person, having any duty to perform in connection with sale, however, either directly or indirectly bid for, acquire or attempt to acquire any interest in the property sold. The sale shall be subject to the conditions prescribed in Second Schedule of the Income-tax, 1961 and the rules made there under and to the further following conditions.

The particulars specified in the annexed schedule have been stated to be best of the information of the undersigned, but the undersigned shall not be answerable for any error, mis-statement or omission in this proclamation.

1. The reserve price below which the Properties (mentioned below) shall not be sold is **Rs.4,54,70,000/- (Rupees Four Crore Fifty Four Lakhs Seventy Thousand Only).**
2. The amount by which the biddings are to be increased shall be **Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakh Only).** In the event of any dispute arising as to the amount of bid, or as to the bidder, the lot shall at once be again put up to auction.
3. The prospective bidders are advised to peruse the copies of title deeds with the bank and verify the latest encumbrance certificate and other Revenue/Municipal records to exercise due diligence and satisfy themselves on the title and encumbrances, if any, over the properties.
4. The highest bidder shall be declared to be the purchaser of the schedule property. It shall be in the discretion of the undersigned to decline/acceptance of the highest bid when the price offered appears to be clearly inadequate as to make it inadvisable to do so.
5. For participating in e-auction, intending bidders have to deposit a refundable EMD of 10% of Reserve price of the property which shall be **Rs.4,54,70,000/--** through RTGS/NEFT directly into the Current Account No. **849221110000004** in the name of the **Recovery Officer-I, DRT-II, Bangalore, with the Bank of India, Basaveshwaranagar Branch, Bangalore, having IFSC code No. BKID0008492 on or before 25.03.2025 or by way of DD favoring 'Recovery Officer-I, DRT-II, Bangalore in OA No: 205/2019 (RC No. 35/2020).** The intending bidder should submit the quotation along with copy of PAN card, Address proof and identity proof, E-mail ID, Mobile No. and in case of Company or any other document confirming representation/attorney of the company and the receipt/counter file of such deposit/Demand draft towards EMD in sealed cover by **3.00 PM on 20/02/2023 to Recovery Officer I, DRT-II, Bangalore.** The sealed cover should be super scribed with "Quotation for participating in e-auction sale in **RC No. 35 of 2020 in O.A. No. 205 of 2019.** Tender forms may be collected from the Bank's office or the Office of the DRT. EMD deposited thereafter shall not be considered for participation in e-auction.
6. The successful bidder shall have to pay the balance 25% of the sale proceeds after adjustment of EMD on being knocked down by next date i.e., **25.03.2025 by 4.00 p.m.** in the said account as per details mentioned in para 5 above. If the next day is holiday or Sunday, then on the next first office day.
7. The purchaser shall deposit the balance 75% of the sale proceeds on or before 15th day from the date of sale of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day be Sunday or other Holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day by prescribed mode as stated in para 5 above. In addition to above the purchaser shall also deposit Poundage fee @ 2% upto **Rs. 1,000/- and @ 1%** of the excess of the said amount of **Rs. 1000/-** which is to be remitted online, through **www.bharatkosh.gov.in** by selecting following: I. Ministry- Department of financial services, ii. Functional head-services and services fees, iii. PAO code- 006701, PAO, DFS Nagpur and iv. DDO code- 208095, SO/DRT-2, Bangalore, A copy of receipt to be filed before the undersigned for record purpose.

In case of default of payment within the prescribed period, the deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, may, if the undersigned thinks fit, shall be forfeited to the Government and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may subsequent be sold.

The property is being sold on **"AS IS WHEREAS IS & AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".**

Bidders are advised to go through the website **https://www.bankeauctionwizard.com** for detailed terms & conditions of auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in e-auction sale proceedings.

The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids if found unreasonable or postpone the auction at any time.

Details of Revenue assessed, encumbrances and claims on the RC Schedule properties are as follow: -

| Description of the properties to be sold with the names of the co-owners where the property belongs to defaulter and any other person as co-owners. | Revenue assessed upon the property or any part thereof | Details of any other encumbrance to which property is liable | Claims, if any, which have been put forward to the property, and any other known particulars bearing on its nature and value. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Please refer the schedule mentioned hereunder | As assed by Revenue Authority | As per RC | Dues of Canara Bank, ARM 1 Bengaluru Branch as per RC No 35/2020 in O.A No 205/2019. |

**Schedule 'A' Property as per RC (Owned by CDNo. 1)**

| Item no. | Sy No. | Acres | Cents | Boundary | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 111/1 (111/1P3) as per RTC | 01 | 20 | EAST: Lands in S No. 111/2 and road WEST: Lands in S No. 110/5, NORTH: Lands in S. No.112, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 111/3 and Road. | Gangulli village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk |
| | 111/1 (111/1P4) as per RTC | | 24 | | |

**Schedule 'A' Property as per RC (Owned by Defendant No. 2(a)**

| Item no. | Sy No. | Acres & Guntas | Boundary | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2. | 110/1(110/1P2) as per RTC 110/1 | 0.35 | EAST: Lands in S No. 112-1 WEST: Water channel in the portion of same SD, NORTH: Portion of same SD, SOUTH: Portion of same SD. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District. |
| | 110/1 | 0.18 | EAST: Water channel in the portion of same SD, WEST : Government property in S No.109. NORTH: Portion of same SD, SOUTH: Portion of same SD. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District. |
| 3. | 112/2 (112/2P1) as per RTC | 0.85 | EAST: Lands in S No. 114/7, WEST: Lands in S. No. 110/1, NORTH: Lands in S No. 112/1 and Lands in S No. 114/1, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 112/3A and Lands in S No. 114/3B. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District. |

**Schedule 'B' Property as per RC (Owned by CD No. 2)**

| Item no. | SY NO. | Acres & Guntas | Boundary | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 110-1P5 | 0.45 | EAST: Lands in S No. 112/108, WEST: Portion of same SD, NORTH: Portion of same SD, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/2. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District. |
| 2. | 110/2P2 | 0.20 | EAST: Lands in S No. 112, WEST: Portion of same SD, NORTH: Lands in S No. 110/1, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/3. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District. |
| 3. | 110/3P2 | 0.38 | EAST: Lands in S No. 112, WEST: Portion of same SD, NORTH: Lands in S No. 110/2, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/4. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District. |
| 4. | 110/5 | 1.12 | EAST: Lands in S No. 111, WEST: Lands in S No. 110/9, NORTH: Lands in S No. 110/4, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/6.7. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District. |
| 5. | 112/1P1 | 0.76 | EAST: Lands in S No. 113 and 114, WEST: Lands in S No. 110/1, NORTH: Lands in S No. 108 and 113, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 112/2 and 110. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District. |
| 6. | 110/4P2 | 0.37 | EAST: Lands in S No. 111, WEST: Portion of same SD, NORTH: Lands in S No. 110/3, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/5 | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District. |

**AUCTION SCHEDULE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Date and Time of Auction | 27.03.2025 Between 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM |
| Reserve Price | Rs. 4,54,70,000/- |
| Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) | Rs. 45,47,000/- |
| Last Date and Time of e-Tender form & EMD submission | 25.03.2025 at 4.00 PM |
| Bid Increment | Rs. 5,00,000/- |

**Given under my hand and seal on this 17th day of February 2025**

**RECOVERY OFFICER-I**
**DRT-2, Bengaluru**



**Textile Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,**
ESTD. : 1963
**Administrative Office :** No.16, 1st 'A' Main Road, Sudhamanagar, Bengaluru-560 027. Ph: 48521054; Email: textilecbl@gmail.com

**DEMAND NOTICE**

**Notice Under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.**

Whereas at the request of you, (below mentioned Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgagor(s)) **Textile Co-Operative Bank Limited., Main Branch**, has granted credit facilities from time to time by way of financial assistance against various assets creating security interest in favor of the Bank. The Particulars of the Property Mortgaged by you by way of Deposit of Title Deeds creating security interest in favor of the Bank is mentioned here under. As you failed to discharge the debt due to Bank, the below mentioned loan account has been classified as Non-Performing Assets as per the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India. As the Demand Notice under section 13(2) of the said Act was sent to you through Registered Post calling upon you to discharge the debts due to Bank but the notice could not be served on you or the guarantors for various reasons however the notice were returned unserved, therefore we are issuing this Notice through paper publication.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor | Loan Account No. & Loan Amount | Date of NPA & Demand Notice Date | Rate of Interest (%) | Amount due as on 30-11-2024 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | **Borrower**<br>**Dhanasekar M** S/o Mayakrishnan Muthugoundar<br>**Guarantor**<br>**1. Thulasi A**<br>**2. Mayakrishnan Muthugoundar**<br>**3. Vennila Mayakrishnan** | **HL-EMI/589 Rs. 35,00,000-00** | **14-11-2024 & 16.12.2024** | **10.5%** | **Rs. 35,04,769-00** (Rupees thirty five lakh four thousand seven hundred and sixty nine only) |

**Details of the Security to be enforced :** All the Piece and Parcel of the Eastern Portion of the Property bearing Present No.1195/1, PID No.16-54-1195/1, Old no.1195, old Katha No.1041, (Carved out of Sy.No.46 of Saneguruvanahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk), Presently situated at 4th cross, 2nd Main Road, Kasturi Layout, Kamalanagara, Bangalore-560079. Measuring East to West 15 feet and North to South 40 feet Bounded on:- **East by:** House No.1194; **West by:** Remaining Western Portion of same Property; **North by:** Private Property; **South by:** Road

Therefore, the Notice is given to the Borrower (s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) as mentioned in above calling upon them to make payment of the amount due as shown above within 60 days of publication of this Notice, the said amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment is not paid. Textile Co-Operative Bank Ltd., shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon property as described above all or any of the rights detailed under Sub-section (4) of the Section of 13 of SARFAESI Act. Please Note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to Textile Co-Operative Bank Ltd., to initiate against the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deems necessary under any other provisions of law. You are further requested to note that as per Section 13 (13) of the said Act, you are restrained/prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise without prior consent of the Bank. Please take note of the provisions of subsection (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

**Date: 19.02.2025**
**Place: Bengaluru**

**Sd/-**
**Authorized Officer**



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**
MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES (BANKING DIVISION)
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL II - BENGALURU**
Telephone House Building, Raj Bhavan Road, Bangalore- 560001.

RC No. 35/2020 Date: 17.02.2025 — REGISTERED A/D / DASTI / AFFIXATION / BEAT OF DRUM — FORM NO. 22 [See Regulation – 37(1)]

**PROCLAMATION OF SALE-CUM E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**
**RC NO. 35 of 2020 IN OA NO. 205 of 2019**

**PROCLAMATION OF SALE UNDER RULES 38, 52(2) OF THE SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME-TAX 1961, READ WITH THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY Act, 1993**
**BETWEEN**
**CANARA BANK**
**AND**
**M/S SIDDHI FREEZERS & EXPORTERS PVT. LTD. AND OTHERS.**

Certified Debtor :-

**1. M/s Sri Siddhi Freezers and Exporters Private Limited,** Office at church road Gangulli village & post, Gangulli – 576 216, Kundapura Taluk, Udupi District, **Rep by its Managing Director : 2. Mr. Ramu N. Chandan, Since deceased rep by his L.Rs, a) Mrs. Sumathi R.Chandan (LR of D2), b) Mr. Rajesh R. Chandan (LR of D2), c) Mrs. Pushpa R. Bangere (LR of D2), d) Mrs. Vidyavathi R. Chandan (LR of D2), 3. Mr. Rajesh R. Chandan (son of D2), 4.Mrs. Sumathi R Chandan (wife of D2),** 2 (a to d), D3 & D4 all R/ at – A301-304, Vardhaman Nagar R.P Road, Mulund West, Mumbai - 80.

WHEREAS, you have failed to pay total sum of debt amount of **Rs. 17,98,75,023.92/- (Rupees Seventeen Crores Ninety Eight Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Twenty Three and Ninety Two Paisa Only)** is due against the certified debtor, namely, **M/s Siddhi Freezers and Exporters Pvt. Ltd.**, and others along with interest and costs from the date of filing O.A. till realization of the Recovery Certificate. **(RC: 35/2020) in O.A No.205/2019** issued by the Presiding Officer, **Debt Recovery Tribunal -II.** And whereas the undersigned has ordered the sale of the property mentioned in the schedule below in satisfaction of the said certificate.

| Description of the properties to be sold with the names of the co-owners where the property belongs to defaulter and any other person as co-owners. | Revenue assessed upon the property or any part thereof | Details of any other encumbrance to which property is liable | Claims, if any, which have been put forward to the property, and any other known particulars bearing on its nature and value. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Please refer the schedule mentioned hereunder | As assed by Revenue Authority | As per RC | Dues of Canara Bank, ARM 1 Bengaluru Branch as per RC No 35/2020 in O.A No 205/2019. |

**Schedule 'A' Property as per RC (Owned by CD No. 1)**

| Item no. | Sy No. | Acres | Cents | Boundary | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 111/1 (111/1P3) as per RTC | 01 | 20 | EAST: Lands in S No. 111/2 and road WEST: Lands in S No. 110/5, NORTH: Lands in S. No.112, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 111/3 and Road. | Gangulli village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk |
| | 111/1 (111/1P4) as per RTC | | 24 | | |

**Schedule 'A' Property as per RC (Owned by Defendant No. 2(a)**

| Item no. | Sy No. | Acres & Guntas | Boundary | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2. | 110/1(110/1P2) as per RTC 110/1 | 0.35 | EAST: Lands in S No. 112-1 WEST: Water channel in the portion of same SD, NORTH: Portion of same SD, SOUTH: Portion of same SD. | Located at Gangulli Village, , Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District |
| | 110/1 | 0.18 | EAST: Water channel in the portion of same SD, WEST : Government property in S No.109. NORTH: Portion of same SD, SOUTH: Portion of same SD. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District |
| 3. | 112/2 (112/2P1) as per RTC | 0.85 | EAST: Lands in S No. 114/7, WEST: Lands in S. No. 110/1, NORTH: Lands in S No. 112/1 and Lands in S No. 114/1, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 112/3A and Lands in S No. 114/3B. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District |

**Schedule 'B' Property as per RC (Owned by CD No. 2)**

| Item no. | SY NO. | Acres & Guntas | Boundary | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 110-1P5 | 0.45 | EAST: Lands in S No. 112/108, WEST: Portion of same SD, NORTH: Portion of the same SD, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/2. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District |
| 2. | 110/2P2 | 0.20 | EAST: Lands in S No. 112, WEST: Portion of same SD, NORTH: Lands in S No. 110/1, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/3. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District |
| 3. | 110/3P2 | 0.38 | EAST: Lands in S No. 112, WEST: Portion of same SD, NORTH: Lands in S No. 110/2, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/4. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District |
| 4. | 110/5 | 1.12 | EAST: Lands in S No. 111, WEST: Lands in S No. 110/9, NORTH: Lands in S No. 110/4, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/6.7. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District |
| 5. | 112/1P1 | 0.76 | EAST: Lands in S No. 113 and 114, WEST: Lands in S No. 110/1, NORTH: Lands in S No. 108 and 113, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 112/2 and 110. | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District |
| 6. | 110/4P2 | 0.37 | EAST: Lands in S No. 111, WEST: Portion of same SD, NORTH: Lands in S No. 110/3, SOUTH: Lands in S No. 110/5 | Located at Gangulli Village, Vandse Hobli, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District |

**AUCTION SCHEDULE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Date and Time of Auction | 27.03.2025 Between 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM |
| Reserve Price | Rs. 4,54,70,000/- |
| Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) | Rs. 45,47,000/- |
| Last Date and Time of e-Tender form & EMD submission | 25.03.2025 at 4.00 PM |
| Bid Increment | Rs. 5,00,000/- |

**Given under my hand and seal on this 17th day of February 2025**

**RECOVERY OFFICER-I**
**DRT-2, Bengaluru**

# Dismissed PDO involved in cheating cases held at KIA

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Chennammanakere Achukattu police on Wednesday arrested a dismissed Panchayath Development Officer (PDO) who was allegedly involved in a series of cheating cases and had escaped to Sri Lanka.

Yogendra was nabbed as soon as he landed at the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) where the security officials detained him following a lookout circular issued against him.

Lokesh B. Jagalasar, Deputy Commissioner of Police (South Division), said Yogendra had cheated a man by promising him a government job and had escaped with ₹17 lakh. He was arrested but later got out on bail. A probe revealed that he had cheated multiple people using a similar modus operandi.

The government dismissed him from the PDO post in Yellapura in Uttara Kannada. Yogendra allegedly cheated a businessman on the pretext of investing in cryptocurrency and promising to double his money in a short period. The businessman gave him ₹1.35 crore but Yogendra escaped to Dubai with the money. Yogendra shifted his base from Dubai to Sri Lanka and was nabbed when he returned to Bengaluru on Tuesday, the police said.

**Timings**
**BENGALURU**

| | |
|---|---|
| **THURSDAY, FEB. 20** | |
| RISE 06:40 | SET 18:27 |
| RISE 00:00 | SET 11:27 |
| **FRIDAY, FEB. 21** | |
| RISE 06:39 | SET 18:27 |
| RISE 00:42 | SET 12:12 |
| **SATURDAY, FEB. 22** | |
| RISE 06:39 | SET 18:27 |
| RISE 01:37 | SET 13:03 |

| Bengaluru Weather | max | min |
|---|---|---|
| Tumakuru | 33 | 22 |
| Mysuru | 33 | 15 |
| Bengaluru | 34 | 18 |

**Bengaluru Today**
**33°C** Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be warm. Night also will be slight cool. Dry weather to prevail.

**Bengaluru Tomorrow**
**34°C** The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be warm. Night also will be cool and hazy.

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THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

# Now, post pictures of blackspots on social media and citizen volunteers will clear them

## Rotary Bengaluru Midtown launches initiative to make Bengaluru cleaner by reducing blackspots

**Shreyas H.S.**
BENGALURU

In an aim to make Bengaluru cleaner by reducing the number of blackspots, the Rotary Bengaluru Midtown (RBM) has launched a unique initiative for citizens to volunteer to engage in cleanliness drive.

As part of the programme, the RBM has opened social media pages for netizens to post images of blackspots in their respective areas.

A file photo of garbage thrown on a footpath on Mysuru Road.

Palani Loganathan, President of the RBM, talking to *The Hindu* said the initiative is themed on thought and action leaders to make Bengaluru better. It's the need of the hour for the citizens to work towards a cleaner and greener city, he said.

Under the initiative, people can post photos with locations of areas which are littered with garbage. Not just spots in main roads or localities, people can also post about abandoned sites, temples, buildings, water bodies. Under the post, they can invite volunteers to join hands with them to clean the area. They can also come up with a plan to clean the area. The ones who post are identified as thought leaders and those who volunteer for the groundwork are action leaders.

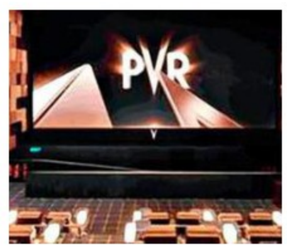
**'Actionable event'**
An event will be organised at Brigade Orion Mall to educate the masses about the initiative on February 22 and 23 at 4.30 p.m.

Mr. Palani said during the event at the mall, he is planning to rope in at least 3,000 people for the programme. "This is an actionable event through which the RBM wants to cut down blackspots drastically. This is a continuous process and not limited to a one-day or two-day event," he said.

Find the dedicated pages for the initiative on Facebook, Instagram, and X.

# Consumer court fines PVR INOX ₹1 lakh for delaying movie screening with excessive ads

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU



The Bengaluru District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission has directed PVR INOX to display the actual time of movie on tickets and not the time when the advertisements start playing in the hall.

According to the order copy, Abhishek M.R., a consumer, had filed a case on PVR INOX for the delayed screening of the film *Sam Bahadur* on December 26, 2023.

In his complaint, Abhishek said he booked three tickets for a 4.05 p.m. show at PVR INOX, but the film was played at 4.30 p.m. after a series of advertisements. Upset by this, Abhishek complained against PVR INOX and BookMyShow, the ticket portal.

The commission ruled that BookMyShow wasn't responsible for the issue even as it blamed PVR INOX (merged as PVR) for subjecting viewers to long advertisements beyond the scheduled time of the film. President M. Sobha and members K. Anita Shivakumar and Suma Anil Kumar, who led the panel, asked PVR INOX to value the time of its customers.

The ruling said that film tickets must properly mention the correct start time of the movie. It also directed that advertisements must not go beyond the scheduled start time of the film. The complainant was awarded ₹20,000 for the inconvenience and mental distress caused, along with ₹8,000 to cover litigation costs. The court also ordered the multiplex chain to pay ₹1 lakh in punitive damages and ensure that the actual start time of movies is clearly communicated to viewers.

PVR INOX defended its practice by citing government regulations that require screening of public service announcements before movies. However, the court noted that these guidelines limit such screenings to a maximum of 10 minutes.

The complainant had recorded the advertisements as evidence, prompting PVR INOX to argue that this violated anti-piracy laws. However, the court dismissed this claim, clarifying that only the advertisements, not the film, were recorded, and this was done to highlight an issue.

*(With inputs from PTI)*

# Seized properties of Guru Sarvabhouma Souharda Credit Coop. restituted

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

**16 immovable and 46 movable properties with a market value of ₹50 crore were restituted**

A Special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court has restituted 16 immovable and 46 movable properties with an approximate market value of ₹50 crore in favour of the competent authority appointed under the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 for Gurusarvabhauma Souharda Credit Co-operative Ltd., Bengaluru.

This, according to an official release, will help recover the loss incurred by the victims in the form of their deposits along with the assured returns on the deposits which were allegedly diverted by the society.

The recent order by the court restituting the properties will enable the competent authority to distribute the proceeds of sale of the attached properties among depositors.

The case pertains to misappropriation of depositor's money by the top officials of the bank in connivance with the borrowers. The accused society had floated and was running a well-designed "ponzi scheme" under the ruse of effecting highly profitable return on investment and has induced lakhs of gullible depositors to invest in the said society and diverted the said funds through fictitious loan accounts and failed to return the same to the depositors as assured and promised, said the ED release.

During the investigation under PMLA, search and seizure actions were conducted and four accused persons, including the Chairman of the Society, were arrested, four complaints were filed and two Provisional Attachment Orders were issued with movable and immovable properties valuing ₹159.51 crore were attached.

Based on the ED's initiative and meetings with the Competent Authority, a restitution application under Section 8(8) of the PMLA, 2002, was filed before the Special PMLA Court, Bengaluru for the release of immovable and moveable properties seized by the ED, Bengaluru.

The ED urged the court to release the attached properties in favour of Competent Authority to resituate it to the rightful victims of the fraud, said the release.

# New study expresses concern over translocation of African cheetahs

**Hemanth C.S.**
BENGALURU

A new study by the Centre for Wildlife Studies (CWS), which examines the ethical, ecological and welfare challenges associated with the translocation of African cheetahs to India, has expressed concern over the translocation of the animals and also raised questions about its scientific merit and long-term viability.

The study, 'Delineating the environmental justice implications of an experimental cheetah introduction project in India', was published in *Frontiers in Conservation Science*.

According to the CWS, the study highlights that the translocation of African cheetahs to India has resulted in significant challenges, with a mortality rate of 40%-50% in the first phase of the project, far below the expected survival rate of 85%.

Under Project Cheetah, so far 20 African cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*), eight from Namibia in September 2022 and 12 from South Africa in February 2023, were introduced into the Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh.

The CWS also said that the cheetahs involved in the project have experienced high levels of stress, with over 90 chemical immobilisations and regular veterinary interventions, raising concerns about their physical and mental health.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav releasing a female cheetah in the Kuno National Park on February 5. FILE PHOTO

It also said that African cheetah populations are already under pressure, with only around 6,500 mature individuals remaining in the wild.

"With an initial mortality rate of 40%-50% in these cheetahs, currently all individuals are being kept in captivity in India, with plans to import 12 individuals annually till a viable population is established. The researchers of this paper argue that the project's reliance on a continuous supply of cheetahs from southern Africa, is neither ecologically sustainable nor ethical," it said.

The study was led by Yashendu Chinmayee Joshi, doctoral fellow at the Centre for Wildlife Studies, along with co-authors Stephanie E. Klarmann, Blood Lions Non Profit Company (NPC) and University of Johannesburg, South Africa; and Louise C. de Waal, Blood Lions Non Profit Company (NPC), South Africa.

**Inclusive approach**
The authors have suggested that a more justice-informed approach would ensure that conservation decisions are based on inclusive, participatory processes, which take into account the diverse values people place on nature.

"Our current approach risks overlooking diverse knowledge systems and values, the nuanced ways in which people interact with nature, their perceptions of wildlife, and importantly, their consent to bear the consequences of such initiatives," said Mr. Joshi.

"Conservation efforts should focus more on their ability to maintain sustainable shared spaces between humans and wildlife, rather than causing division and distress," he said.

# State govt. partners with SaveLIFE Foundation

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

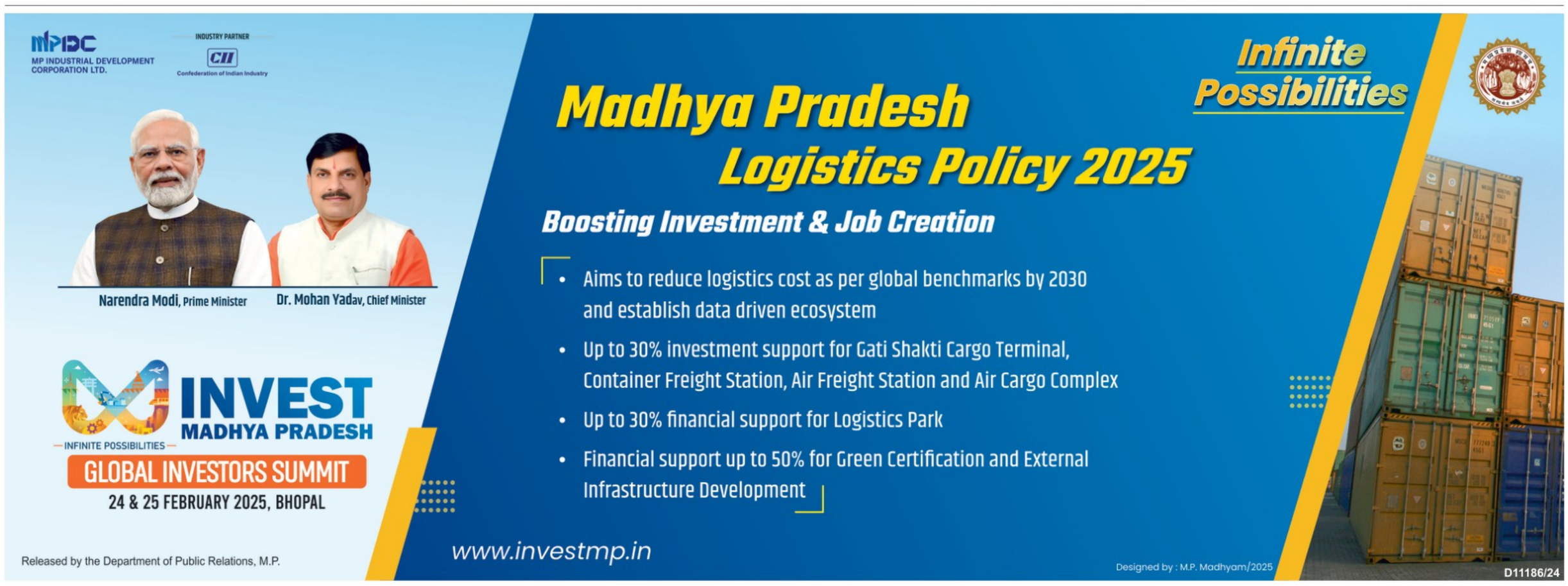
he Karnataka government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SaveLIFE Foundation to enhance road safety measures and reduce crash fatalities across the State.

The MoU was formalised in the presence of Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy, Transport Secretary N.V. Prasad, and representatives from SaveLIFE Foundation on Tuesday.

**Safety measures**
The partnership aims to implement data-driven interventions, including the 'Zero Fatality District' (ZFD) programme, which identifies high-risk road networks and deploys targeted safety measures.

The initiative builds on existing efforts that contributed to a 46% reduction in fatalities on the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway in 2024, according to a release.

**Zero Fatality Corridors**
SaveLIFE Foundation will also work with the State government to convert high-risk zones into 'Zero Fatality Corridors' through better road design, signage, and trauma care response.

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

# City professor creates video-based learning platform for aspiring neurosurgeons

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Young aspiring neurosurgeons can now delve into the technical nuances of operative neurosurgery through a video-based learning platform of neurological procedures.

The audio-visual learning platform - Neuro-Spinal Optica - has been brought out by Balaji Pai S., Special Officer of the State-run Trauma and Emergency Care Centre (TECC) on Victoria Hospital campus and Professor of neurosurgery at Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI).

Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil and Bengaluru Rural MP C.N. Manjunath released the cutting-edge digital course on Wednesday in Victoria Hospital.

Dr. Pai, who had also brought out an atlas of neurological procedures performed in neuro departments across the country in 2022, said Neuro-Spinal Optica is a structured video-based learning platform covering over 55 cranial and over 17 spinal surgery videos, designed to simplify complex neurosurgical procedures.

**Real surgical cases**

"Each high-quality surgical training video is carefully edited, subtitled, and includes expert commentary with interactive Q and A sessions. Designed for neurosurgery residents, medical students, and aspiring neurosurgeons, this programme bridges the gap in surgical education by providing real-world operative insights, advanced surgical techniques, and step-by-step procedural guidance," Dr. Pai told *The Hindu*.

The cranial section covers basic techniques, skull-based surgery, tumours, cerebrovascular surgery, and some miscellaneous videos. The spinal section consists of topics such as the CV Junction, Cervical spine and the thoracolumbar spine.

"These videos are derived from operations on many patients and have been edited, fused, and subtitled. I provide commentary for each video, with a Q and A session at the end of each chapter, making it a comprehensive teaching material. This is also an undergraduate package for young aspiring neurosurgeons," Dr. Pai said.

# State to provide additional 5 kg rice instead of cash under Anna Bhagya

## Food and Civil Supplies Minister says decision follows Centre's commitment to provide required quantity of rice to State

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Starting this month, the Karnataka government will provide an additional 5 kg of rice to BPL families instead of cash under the Anna Bhagya scheme.

Announcing this on Wednesday, Food and Civil Supplies Minister K.H. Muniyappa said this decision had been made following the Union government's commitment to provide the required quantity of rice to Karnataka. An order was issued later in the day.

Unable to procure enough rice in the market at a reasonable cost in time to meet the needs of the scheme, the State government had decided to temporarily give ₹170 per person per month at the rate of ₹34 per kg from July 1, 2023, in lieu of the promised 5 kg of rice.

An estimated 2.29 lakh tonnes of rice is needed every month to supply 5 kg to 4.42 crore family members of the 1.19 crore BPL and Antyodaya card holders. FILE PHOTO

**Poll manifesto**

In its election manifesto, the Congress had promised to distribute 5 kg of free rice to each member of families holding the below the poverty line (BPL) and Antyodaya cards, over and above the 5 kg given under the National Food Security Act. An estimated 2.29 lakh tonnes of rice is needed every month to supply 5 kg free to the 4.42 crore family members of the 1.19 crore BPL and Antyodaya card holders in Karnataka, which the Food Corporation of India (FCI) had refused to sell to the State.

"Now that the FCI has agreed to provide an additional 2.1 lakh tonnes of rice per month at ₹22.5 per kg instead of the earlier stipulated price of ₹28 per kg, we have decided to provide rice instead of the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of cash. We are procuring the required quantity of rice at a total cost of ₹536.71 crore each month. The supply of rice will start from this month itself. We have discussed this with Union Food and Civil Supplies Minister Pralhad Joshi and he has assured us of a consistent supply of rice for the next two years." Mr. Muniyappa told presspersons.

With this, the State government is likely to spend ₹150 crore to ₹190 crore less than what it had been spending previously by transferring cash to beneficiaries. Since the start of the DBT in July 2023 till October 2024, the State government has disbursed ₹10,452 crore to over 4.12 crore beneficiaries.

Stating that the process of disbursal of cash component for the months of November, December and January is on, the Minister said the beneficiaries will soon receive cash in their bank accounts.

# 'Hone skills to crack new-age offences'

**The Hindu Bureau**
MYSURU

Additional Director-General of Police (Training) Alok Kumar on Wednesday advised probationary women police constables to be courteous with the public when they join the force.

Speaking after inaugurating the foundation training for the 9th batch of 259 probationary women police constables at the district armed reserve here, he said the Police Department exists to serve the public and therefore, your behaviour with the public matters a lot.

Discipline in the force is key and you must develop the nature of behaving courteously with the people as our goal is to establish a "people-friendly" policing. Self discipline is also important in the profession, he added.

The ADGP told the trainees that they have got an opportunity to serve the public.

"You are wearing the uniform and I think you are fortunate. Once we wear the khaki uniform, we must become professionals and give prominence to our duties/roles. You need to display the courage and strength the women of the State have."

# NHM contract employees to now get personal accident and term insurance

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Contractual employees working under the National Health Mission (NHM) in Karnataka will now get personal accident insurance and term insurance coverage.

This initiative has been made possible through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between NHM and AXIS Bank in the first week of this month. It will benefit approximately 25,000 direct contractual employees working across NHM programmes against the 28,400 approved posts, ensuring financial security and peace of mind for them and their families.

Implemented in 2005, NHM has played a pivotal role in strengthening public healthcare systems and delivering essential healthcare services across Karnataka.

Despite their critical contributions, NHM's contractual employees have historically lacked access to key social security benefits such as term insurance and personal accident insurance.

Recognising this long-standing gap, NHM Karnataka has proactively introduced this insurance scheme at zero cost—neither employees nor NHM will bear any premium, as AXIS Bank is offering these policies free of charge.

NHM Mission Director Naveen Bhat Y. told *The Hindu* that the MoU was signed 20 days ago. "Currently, the insurance coverage has been extended in six districts and will become effective 15 days after the first salary is credited to the employee's new salary account with AXIS Bank," he said.

**Key benefits**

Employees will get personal accident insurance and total permanent disability cover of up to ₹60 lakh. The scheme covers both on-duty and off-duty accidental deaths for employees up to 60 years of age. While it is applicable in case of personal accidents, partial disability cover of up to 75% of the base cover will be provided. Apart from a natural death cover of ₹10 lakh, the scheme also provides education and personal accident coverage benefits for employee's children.

**Inter-district transfer facility**

NHM contractual employees are typically selected at the district level and are required to serve in the same district throughout their tenure. Over time, many employees recruited through this process have repeatedly requested inter-district transfers.

In response to this long-standing demand, a policy is being formulated to allow a one-time inter-district transfer during their service period. "An official order regarding this will be issued soon," said Dr. Bhat.

# Three of family die in accident in Arabail Ghat

**The Hindu Bureau**
HUBBALLI

Three of a family from Koppal, including a seven-month-old baby boy, were killed and another was injured in a ghastly road accident in Arabail Ghat near Yallapur of Uttara Kannada on Wednesday.

According to the police, the family from Koppal was proceeding towards Ankola for a trip when its vehicle collided with a truck coming from the opposite direction in Arabail Ghat. The deceased have been identified as R. Venkatesh, his wife Chaitra and son Srihan.

Venkatesh's brother Shrikanth Reddy has been admitted to hospital with severe injuries.


**Shivamogga City Corporation, Shivamogga**

ಕ್ರಮಾಂಕ: ಶಿಮನಪಾಶಿ:ಕಾಮಿ:ಟೆಂಡರ್:39/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 17.02.2025

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
**(Through e- Procurement portal)**

Tenders have been invited in two/single-cover system through KPP portal as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Standard Tender Document procedure to provide the following services in the limits of Shivamogga City Corporation. The bidders who are interested in participating through e-procurement tender can obtain the details in website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

**1.**Class of contractors: For Sl No.01: Class 3 and above, for Sl No. 02 & 03 : Class IV and above. **2.** Last date for submission of tender through KPP portal: **03.03.2025 upto 4.00 P M. 3.** Date of opening of Technical bid through KPP portal: **04.03.2025 at 4.30 P M. 4.** Date of opening of Financial bid through KPP portal: **06.03.2025 at 4.30 P M. 5.** Indent No. SE4488/Call 2. **6.** Reservation: Others.

**1.** Indent No : **DMA/2024-25/SE4488**, Details of works : **Providing Vehicle along with driver on hire basis forShivamogga City Corporation (04 nos A/C cars and 12 nos Non A/C cars),** Approx. amount (Rs in lakhs) : **85.00**, Grants : Corporation's General fund for the year 2024-25. **2.** Indent No : **DMA/2024-25/OE/WORK _INDENT36199**, Details of works : **Repairs works of UGD in conservancy between 1st and 2nd cross and in between 3rd and 4th Cross of Jayanagar, Ward No. 10, under Shivamogga City Corporation,** Approx. amount (Rs in lakhs) : **7.80**, Grants : Corporation's General fund for the year 2024-25. **3.** Indent No : **DMA/2024-25/OE/WORK _INDENT32922/CALL-2**, Details of works : **Construction works of box drainage and improvements of roads at Basaveshwaranagara Main Road and Punnyakoti Badavane, Ward No. 3,** Approx. amount (Rs in lakhs) : **17.21**, Grants : SFC grants for 2024-25.

**NOTE:** Any changes in scheduled dates and conditions will be notified in kpp procurement portal only

**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer**
**City Corporation, Shivamogga**

DIPR/SMG/No-120-02/zenkar/2024-25



**POWER COMPANY OF KARNATAKA LIMITED**
(Government of Karnataka undertaking) (CIN: U40101KA2007SGC043640)
**5th Floor, KPTCL Building, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru - 560009**
**Ph: 080-2221 0685 / 2229 4390, Email: addl.director2018@gmail.com**

No. PCKL/ADP/JDP/DDP3/Banking-01/2024-25/7024 DATE: 19.02.2025

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

**Banking of Power for the period from 01.04.2025 to 30.09.2025 on Short Term Basis.**

Power Company of Karnataka Limited (PCKL), on behalf of Five (5) Government Owned Distribution Companies of Karnataka invites bids from Utilities / Traders for supply of **500 MW RTC Power for the period from 01.04.2025 to 10.06.2025 and return from PCKL for the period from 01.07.2025 to 30.09.2025** on Short Term Basis through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP) only.

The link for the KPP Portal is available in **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Bidders are requested to down load the documents **on or after 20.02.2025 through KPP Portal.**

For further details contact the **Additional Director (Projects), Power Company of Karnataka Limited, 5th Floor, #506, KPTCL Building, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru-560009. Contact Numbers 080-22218930 & 22107490.**

**Sd/- Additional Director (Projects)**
**PCKL, Bengaluru**



**BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD**

**INVITATION FOR TENDER** (Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders from registered agencies for the following works.

| Sl. No. | Division | IFT Number | Amount put to tender / EMD (in Rs.) | Last date & time for Submission of Tender | Date & time for Opening of Tender |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Office of the Chief Engineer (South), 7th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.** | | | | | |
| 01 | South-2 | BWSSB/EES2/TO/PB/2277/2024-25 Date: 18.02.2025 | Rs. 93,22,440/- / Rs. 1,86,500/- | 06.03.2025 upto 4:00 p.m. | 10.03.2025 after 4:00 p.m. |
| 02 | | BWSSB/EE(S2)/PB/2279/2024-25 Date: 18.02.2025 | Rs. 3,09,525/- / Rs. 7,800/- | 06.03.2025 upto 4:00 p.m. | 11.03.2025 after 4:30 p.m. |
| | | | | Sd/- Executive Engineer (South-2). | |
| **Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.** | | | | | |
| 03 | East-2 | BWSSB/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT1480 Date: 18.02.2025(CALL-8) | Rs. 75,38,000/- / Rs. 1,50,800/- | 27.02.2025 upto 4:00 p.m. | 28.02.2025 at 4:00 p.m. |
| 04 | | BWSSB/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT1483 Date: 18.02.2025(CALL-8) | Rs. 77,14,000/- / Rs. 1,54,300/- | | |
| | | | | Sd/- Executive Engineer (East-2). | |
| 05 | South East-2 | BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/TO/PB/3621/2024-25 Date: 17.02.2025(CALL-3) | Rs. 21,07,002/- / Rs. 50,000/- | 28.02.2025 upto 4:00 p.m. | 01.03.2025 after 4:30 p.m. |
| 06 | | BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/TO/PB/3623/2024-25 Date: 17.02.2025(CALL-4) | Rs. 99,72,447/- / Rs. 1,99,450/- | | |
| | | | | Sd/- Executive Engineer (South East-2). | |
| **Office of the Chief Engineer (WWM-East), 5th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.** | | | | | |
| 07 | (WWM-STP) C.Valley | BWSSB/EE(WWM-STP) CV/PB/388/2024-25, Date: 20.11.2024(CALL-2) | Rs. 15,89,173/- / Rs. 39,730/- | 28.02.2025 upto 4:00 p.m. | 01.03.2025 after 11:00 a.m. |
| | | | | Sd/- Executive Engineer(WWM-STP) Challaghatta Valley. | |
| **Office of the Chief Engineer (Kaveri-Operation & Maintenance), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.** | | | | | |
| 08 | Kaveri - (O&M) - 2 | BWSSB/EE(K-O&M)-2/PB/3075/ 2024-25 Date: 18.02.2025(Call-2) | Rs. 68,85,725/- / Rs. 1,38,000/- | 27.02.2025 upto 4:00 p.m. | 28.02.2025 after 5:00 p.m. |
| 09 | | BWSSB/EE(K-O&M)-2/PB/3077/ 2024-25 Date: 18.02.2025(Call-2) | Rs. 34,01,752/- / Rs. 68,500/- | | |
| 10 | | BWSSB/EE(K-O&M)-2/PB/3079/ 2024-25 Date: 18.02.2025(Call-2) | Rs. 34,67,656/- / Rs. 70,000/- | | |
| 11 | | BWSSB/EE(K-O&M)-2/PB/3081/ 2024-25 Date: 18.02.2025(Call-3) | Rs. 72,64,143/- / Rs. 1,46,000/- | 07.03.2025 upto 4:00 p.m. | 10.03.2025 after 5:00 p.m. |
| | | | | Sd/- Executive Engineer(Kaveri-Operation & Maintenance)-2. | |

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/RA/5161/2024-25



**CORRIGENDUM TO FORM URC-2**
**Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Act (Pursuant to section 374(b) of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the Companies (Authorized to Register) Rules, 2014)**

In pursuance of the Public Notice published on 14th February 2025 of **Shilton Hospitality LLP,** please note that in point 4 - objections, the duration of filing objections to the Registrar at **Central Registration Centre (CRC) is 21days** instead of previously published 10 days.

**Dated this 19th day of February 2025**
**Name(s) of Applicant(s)**
1.Mr. Shyamsunder Kishanchand Chawla
2.Mr. Jitesh Kanani



**SUMMONS TO APPEAR IN PERSON**
(Under 0.5 Rule 20 of CPC)

**IN THE COURT OF IV ADDL. SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT AT BENGALURU, DISTRICT CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS COURT COMPLEX, BENGALURU-560009**

**O. S. No. 986/2015**

BETWEEN :
**Sri. R. Puttaiah** ...Plaintiff
AND:
**Sri. Ramaiah and 10 Others** ...Defendants

**Sri. B.V.Jayaram,** S/o Venkatagiri Gowda, aged about 45 years, Residing at No.298, Behind Canara Bank, Begur Village, Bengaluru-560068 as arrayed as defendant No.10 in the said suit.

Whereas, One R.Puttaiah S/o R. Ramaiah has instituted a suit against you under order VII RULE 1 OF CPC for Specific perfor-mance agreement of sale dated 16-06-1997 on the file of IV Addl. Senior Civil Judge Bengaluru Rural District at Bengaluru, 3rd Floor, District City Civil Court Complex, Bengaluru and now which is not stands posted to 20-03-2025.

Therefore, you are hereby called upon to appear in person or through a pleader on 20-03-2025 before the Hon'ble IV Addl. Senior Civil Judge, Bengaluru Rural District at Bengaluru at 11 A. M.

In Default of the same, the above matter will be heard and determined ex-parte on 20-03-2025 in case of your absence on the said date.

Given under my hand and seal of this IV Addl. Senior Civil Judge Bengaluru Rural District at Bengaluru on 18th day of February 2025 at Bengaluru.

**SCHEDULE**

All the piece and parcel of the Agricultural land bearing Sy. No.10 measuring 2 acres, situated in Bandapura Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and bounded:
East By : Property of Smt.R. Shakunthala in Sy. No.11
West By : Remaining portion of the land in Sy No.10.
North By : Property of Sri Anjanappa.
South By : Property of Sri Anjanappa.

By Order of the Court
Sd/-
Chief Ministerial Officer
IV Addl. Senior Civil Judge Court
Bengaluru Rural Dist., Bengaluru.



**KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD**
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
# 49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-DPR-11/3986/2024-25 Date: 19.02.2025

**SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER**
**(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)**

KIADB invites tenders from reputed consultants/firms under two cover bid system having an office at Bengaluru with vast experience and proven record of similar nature of works for project mentioned below:-

**Name of the works : 1)** Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for formation of new industrial areas Including Economic Analysis, Surveying, Layout Plan, Design, Preparation of Estimates, Cost Structure etc., for the proposed Bagepalli Industrial Area, Bagepalli Taluk, Chikkaballapura District. (Extent 685.07 Acres). **2)** Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for formation of new industrial areas Including Economic Analysis, Surveying, Layout Plan, Design, Preparation of Estimates, Cost Structure etc., for the proposed Chintamani Industrial Area (Kanishetti Halli, Badagavarahalli, Myakaladonnihalli, Kongathimmanahalli, Kagare Villages), Chintamani Taluk, Chikkaballapura District. (Extent 958.25 Acres).

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **06.03.2025** upto **4.00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

**Sd/-**
DIPR/CP/5180/Zen/2024-25 **Chief Engineer-1, KIADB, Bengaluru**



IN THE COURT OF THE XXXIVth ADDITIONAL CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE AT BENGALURU

C.C. No.51379/2016.

**Between:**
**Karnataka State Financial Corporation,**
KSFC Bhavan, Recovery Department,
No. 1/1, Thimmaiah Road,
BENGALURU-560 001,
**Represented by: its Head of the Department. -Complainant**
**And :**
**K. Venkata Satyanarayana,**
**TARANAKA, Secunderabad-500 017. -Accused.**

**SUMMONS TO ACCUSED FOR APPEARANCE BEFORE COURT**

**K. Venkata Satyanarayana,**
**Managing Director,**
**M/s. B.L. Industries Pvt. Ltd.,**
**R/at: 12-13-16, Street No.3,**
**TARANAKA, Secunderabad-500 017.**

WHEREAS complaint has been filed by the Complainant against the Accused person K. Venkata Satyanarayana, Managing Director, M/s. B.L. Industries Pvt Ltd, residing at No. 12-13-16, Street No.3, Taranaka, Secunderabad-500 017 and also at No. 101, Jyothi Palace, Satyanarayana Road, Srinagar Colony, Hyderabad, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in C.C.No.51379/2016 punishable under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and the hand summons has been returned as the Accused is not found, and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Court that the said Accused K. Venkata Sathyanarayana, Managing Director, M/s. B.L. Industries has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said summons).

You are hereby summoned to appear before this Court on **07.03.2025 at 11.00 AM** in person or through your Advocates/ Pleaders and settle the claims made by the Complainant. Failing which the matter will be heard and determined.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court, on this **6th of February 2025 at Bengaluru.**

**By Order of Court**
**Sheristhedar,**
**XXXIV ADDL. Chief Judicial Magistrate Court, Bengaluru.**

**Advocate for Plaintiffs**
**Dr.T.Somashekar, MA., LL.b.,(Spl).,Ph.D.,**
**Prajwal Law Associates,**
**Advocates & Legal Consultants,**
**No.04,2nd Main, 3rd Cross, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru-560009**
**Mobile No.9481135419.**

# High Court upholds compensation to three electricity accident victims

A Division Bench passed the order while dismissing the appeals filed by KPTCL and Bescom

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A Division Bench of the High Court of Karnataka has upheld the ruling of a single judge who directed electricity distribution and supply companies to pay ₹1.28 crore as compensation to victims, including two minors, of three electricity accidents during 2017-18.

"The grant of compensation by the single judge under different heads, which are recognised in law, cannot be said to be on the higher side," observed the Bench comprising Justice V. Kameswar Rao and Justice C.M. Joshi.

The Bench passed the order while dismissing the appeals filed by the Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (KPTCL) and Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom), which had challenged the August 4, 2022, judgement of the single judge.

The single judge had passed the orders in favour of Rekha, the widow of an agricultural labourer

who was electrocuted at a coffee plantation in Sakaleshpura of Hassan district; 15-year-old Chandana K. of Lottegollahalli in Bengaluru, and seven-year-old Muizz Ahmad Shariff of Gurananpalya in Bengaluru.

In the case of Chandana, the single judge had ordered payment of ₹51.76 lakh as compensation to her and Bescom was directed to pay the remaining ₹49.26 lakh by deducting ₹2.5 lakh paid earlier. She had suffered 75% disability with the amputation of her left hand when she was 13 years and studying in Class IX when she came in contact with a 11KV electricity line while she was climbing the stairs holding an iron mop on October 19, 2017.

For Muizz Ahmad Shariff, the single judge had awarded ₹50.82 lakh as compensation and had asked the KPTCL to pay the remaining ₹44.32 lakh by deducting ₹6.5 lakh paid earlier.

The single judge had directed KPTCL to pay ₹25.25 lakh as compensation to Rekha for the death of her husband, Subramanya, 36. He had died of electrocution while harvesting pepper plants using an aluminium ladder which came in contact with a 11KV feeder line on February 22, 2018.

# Minister orders probe into tiger death

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre ordered a probe into the death of a tiger in the backwaters of Ambaligola reservoir in Shivamogga district.

On February 17, the carcass of the tiger aged about eight was found in the backwaters of Ambaligola reservoir, at Byrapura in Sagar taluk. Mr. Khandre directed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden to conduct a probe and submit a report in 10 days.

"Media reports stated that there was a bullet wound on the animal. It was reported that there has never been a sighting of a tiger in this area," Mr. Khandre said to the PCCF. He said local residents have expressed suspicion that the tiger may have been killed elsewhere and dumped in the reservoir.

# Dalwai named ISEC chairman

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Ashok Dalwai, retired IAS officer, has been chosen as the chairman of the Board of Governors of the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru, for a three-year term by the members of the board at a recent meeting.

He has been serving as the chairman of Karnataka Agriculture Price Commission since January 2021.

# Five students held in Vijayapura on charge of ragging

**The Hindu Bureau**
HUBBALLI

Al-Ameen Medical College and Hospital in Vijayapura was in the news on Wednesday following an alleged case of ragging of a student from Jammu and Kashmir. While the college authorities termed it as false and said that it was just a case of altercation between students during a cricket match, in a subsequent development the police registered an FIR and arrested five senior students. The reported incident took place on Tuesday during the match and the student was allegedly assaulted by his seniors later in the day.

The allegation gained traction after student leader of Jammu and Kashmir Nasir Khuehami posted about the incident on his X account. As the student leader from Jammu and Kashmir had tagged his post on social media to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, senior police officials visited the college to inquire into the issue. According to the FIR registered by the Vijayapura Rural Police, the complainant Hamim Gulam Ahmad Bhatt, a second year MBBS student from Anantnag district in Jammu and Kashmir, was forced to leave the ground and coerced into dancing and saluting against his will, while also being subjected to verbal abuse.

The complainant who was chosen as the captain of the cricket team of the 2023 batch was also allegedly assaulted by the seniors in his hostel room.

However, after inquiring into the incident and further investigation, the Vijayapura Rural Police registered an FIR against five students and arrested them. They gave the names of the students as Mohammed Zainul Zulfikar Ali Kasar of Vijayapura, Sameer Kashimpeer Tadapatri of Sandur in Ballari district, Shaik Sawood Mudagal of Raichur district, Mansoor Bhasha of Shiraguppa in Ballari district and Muzaffer alias Mujeeb Jamadar of Hingani in Vijayapura district.

# Omar raises issue with Siddaramaiah

**The Hindu Bureau**
SRINAGAR

J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday raised the issue of a Kashmiri student's thrashing with Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and sought a First Information Report (FIR) into the incident.

"I have spoken to the CM of Karnataka, Siddaramaiah*ji*, about this unfortunate incident. He has assured me that the police have filed an FIR and necessary action will be taken. Four people accused of perpetrating this ragging/thrashing have been identified," Mr. Abdullah said.

# Six held for dragging migrant worker's body in Kalaburagi dist.

**The Hindu Bureau**
KALABURAGI

The police arrested six people on Wednesday morning, after a video of the body of a 35-year-old migrant from Bihar being dragged by workers on Shree Cement Company premises near Kodla village in Sedam taluk of Kalaburagi district surfaced.

A group of workers is seen following them, witnessing the inhumane act.

Superintendent of Police Adduru Srinivasalu speaking to the media confirmed that the police have registered a *suo motu* case against six workers identified as Hyder Ali, Ajay, Ravishankar, Harinder, Ramesh Chandra and Akhilesh.

These six have been remanded in judicial custody, he added.

The victim, identified as Chandan Singh, a migrant worker from Bihar, reportedly died on Tuesday while working at Shree Cement Company in Kodla village.

According to sources in the factory, Chandan died of a heart attack while working and the doctor who examined him noted that the worker died due to low blood pressure.

However, the exact cause of his death is yet to be determined. The police have filed a complaint against the workers.

Meanwhile, the agitating workers demanded that the employment agency pay compensation to the deceased worker's family.

**Text & Context and Science**

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (February 20, Thursday), the following articles are available:

- On building resilient telecom infrastructure **newsth.live/telecomresilientexp**
- Only the second animal to find its way by polarised moonlight found **newsth.live/moonlightanimals**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

**TOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL GUNDLUPET**
CHAMARAJANAGARA DISTRICT - 571111
Phone / Fax : 08229-222226, Helpline : 08229-223377
Email : tmc_gundlupet@yahoo.com Website : www.gundlupettown.gov.in
No : GPET/EE/Others/M.F./PR/02/2024-25 Date : 17-02-2025
**TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-PORTAL)**
Online Tenders are invited through e-Procurement by the undersigned from the Tenderers for the following work. Last Date of Tender : 07-03-2025 5.30 PM. Technical Bid Opening : 10-03-2025, 11.00 AM. **NAME OF WORK** : Supply of Loaders, Drivers And Other Man power for SWM Activities to Gundlupet TMC Limits, Indent Number : **DMA/2023-24/SE3566/CALL-2**. EST. **AMT. Rs. 53.60 Lakh. EMD Rs. 1,07,000/-**
For further Details, Please visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/**
**Sd/- PRESIDENT TMC GUNDLUPET** DIPR:CHANAGAR:632:2024-25 **Sd/- CHIEF OFFICER TMC GUNDLUPET**

**PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.**
Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813: Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 96461-22185)
**Tender Enquiry No. 345/SSD-158/S-I/2025 Dated: 20.02.2025**
Dy. CE/Substation Design/TS Organization, C-1 Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites Short term E-tender for manufacturing, testing and supply of 10 nos. 25/31.5 MVA 66/11KV Power Transformers. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification, please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 20.02.2025 (11:00 AM onwards).
**Note:** Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
**C 119/25** **76155/12/3932/2023/41839**

**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA**
**(PUBLIC WORKS, DEPT.)**
No. PWD/BGM/TND/TA/AE/2024-25/6641 Date:18.02.2025
**-ITEM RATETENDER NOTIFICATION(KPPP):-**
The Executive Engineer, PWD Belagavi Division Belagavi invites item ratetenders from the eligible contractors registered in E-procurement portal in Public Works Department under KW-2,3 & 4 Standard tender documents for a work under 5054 SH- Improvement, 5054-MDR Improvement , 3054 MDR Maintenance, total 06 number of works with minimum and maximum tender amounts of Rs.47.36 Lakhs and Rs.391.81 Lakhs respectively and minimum and maximum EMD amount of Rs. 94,800/- and Rs. 5,87,800/-, Part-1:Tender receipt Date is on 01.03.2025 up to 4.30 PM and Technical Bid Opening Date is on 03.03.2025 after 4.45 PM and Financial Bid Opening Date is on 04.03.2025 after 11.00 AM Part-2:Tender receipt Date is on 15.03.2025 up to 4.30 PM and Technical Bid Opening Date is on 17.03.2025 after 4.45 PM and Financial Bid Opening Date is on 18.03.2025 after 11.00 AM and For more information contact the office of the undersigned and https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in after 19.02.2025
**(Note:1)** If no bids received, 3 days One Time auto extension activated 2) For all the above Civil Works, Royalty shall be deducted as per KMMCR 1994 Amendment rule 2016, Also KMMCR 2016 Amended Rule 36(3), 42(1), 44(3), 44(4)).
**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**
**Public Works Department, Belagavi Dn. Belagavi.**
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1723/KSMCA/2024-25

**KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. KPTCL/B78/57511/2024-25 Date: 18.02.2025
**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
**(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)**
KPTCL invites bids from eligible bidders for the following services: Tender for providing Housekeeping Services to Human Resource Development Centre, KPTCL, Hoody, Bengaluru. **Estimated cost is Rs.** 48,78,427.00 The tender will be accepted only through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. Eligibility criteria, requirements, completion period, E.M.D. and participation details in the tender process can be obtained by logging in to the website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 4.00 PM on 24.02.2025**. For further details can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.
**Sd/- Administrator,**
Human Resource Development Centre, KPTCL,
Whitefield Road, Hoody, Bengaluru – 560048. Ph: 080-28540666

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
Notice is hereby given to the general public that we, on behalf of our client, are investigating the ownership right, title and interest of BG Agri Services Private Limited, a private limited company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013 and having CIN U01500KA2024PTC186070 ("**Company**") to the immovable property more particularly described in the **Schedule** hereunder written ("**Schedule Property**"). Our client is intending to purchase the Schedule Property and the Company has represented to our client that the Schedule Property is vacant as on date and that the Company is the sole and absolute owner of the Schedule Property, free and clear from any and all encumbrances or claims.
If any person(s), entity, firm, or institution (*corporate or otherwise*) has any claims, right, title, interest, share, benefit, pending litigation, objection, or demand of any nature ("**Claim**") in or upon the Schedule Property or any part thereof or against the Company, the same shall be brought to the notice of the undersigned in writing together with all details of the Claim together with supporting documents within 14 (fourteen) days from the date of this notice, failing which it shall be presumed that the title of the Company with respect to the Schedule Property is clear, marketable and free from encumbrances of any kind whatsoever and no person has any right, title or interest of any nature whatsoever in the Schedule Property or any part thereof or against the Company, except to the extent mentioned hereunder. Any Claims which are not received within 14 (fourteen) days from the date of publication of this notice shall be deemed to have been consciously waived and disregarded for all intents and purposes and shall no longer be binding on our client.
**SCHEDULE**
All that piece and parcel of contiguous lands, totally admeasuring 35 acres 11 guntas (*along with 2 guntas 'B' Kharab and 3 guntas 'A' Kharab*) situated in Belanagenahalli Village, Vemagallu Hobli, Kolar Taluk, Kolar District, Karnataka comprising of:
***Part A: Non-agricultural converted lands***

| Sl. No. | Survey No. | Extent (excluding kharab land) | | 'A' Kharab | 'B' Kharab | Boundaries | | | | Conversion order details |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Acre | Gunta | Gunta | Gunta | Towards the North by | Towards the South by | Towards the East by | Towards the West by | |
| 1. | 91/1 | 2 | 25 | 0 | 0 | Survey No. 96 | Survey No. 90, 91/2 and Road | Survey Nos. 90 and 100 | Survey Nos. 91/2, 93/3 and 95 | Official memorandum dated 5 August 2009 bearing no. ALN.S.R/400/2008-09 read with official memorandum dated 12 April 2024 bearing no. 10520 issued by the District Commissioner, Kolar. |
| 2. | 99/1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | Survey No. 97 | Survey No. 100 | Survey No.99/2 | Survey Nos. 96 and 100 | Official memorandum dated 5 August 2009 bearing no. ALN.S.R/399/2008-09 read with official memorandum dated 12 April 2024 bearing no. 10522 issued by the District Commissioner, Kolar. |
| 3. | 100 | 4 | 30 | 3 | 0 | Survey Nos. 96 and 99/1 | Survey No. 90 and Road | Survey Nos. 99/1 and 73 | Survey Nos. 90 and 91/1 | Official memorandum dated 5 August 2009 bearing no. ALN.S.R/399/2008-09 read with official memorandum dated 12 April 2024 bearing no. 10521 issued by the District Commissioner, Kolar. |

***Part B: Agricultural lands***

| Sl. No. | Survey No. | Extent (excluding kharab land) | | 'A' Kharab | 'B' Kharab | Boundaries | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Acre | Gunta | Gunta | Gunta | Towards the North by | Towards the South by | Towards the East by | Towards the West by |
| 1. | 91/2 | 0 | 39 | 0 | 0 | Survey No. 91/1 | Survey No. 91/1, and Road | Survey No. 91/1 | Survey Nos. 93/3, and 92 |
| 2. | 93/1 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 0 | Survey No. 95 and Dalasagere Village Boundary | Survey No. 92 and Road | Survey No.93/2 | Survey No. 94 |
| 3. | 93/2 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | Survey No. 95 | Survey No. 92 | Survey No. 93/3 | Survey No. 93/1 |
| 4. | 93/3 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 | Survey No. 95 | Survey No. 92 | Survey No. 91 | Survey No. 93/2 |
| 5. | 95 | 2 | 28 | 0 | 2 | Dalasagere Village Boundary | Survey Nos. 93/1, 93/2 and 93/3 | Survey Nos. 96 and 91 | Dalasagere Village Boundary |
| 6. | 96/1 | 2 | 38 | 0 | 0 | Dalasagere Village Boundary | Survey Nos. 91 and 100 | Survey No. 96/3 | Survey Nos. 96/4 and 95 |
| 7. | 96/2 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 | Dalasagere Village Boundary | Survey No. 100 | Survey No. 97/1 | Survey No. 96/3 |
| 8. | 96/3 | 1 | 25 | 0 | 0 | Dalasagere Village Boundary | Survey No. 100 | Survey No. 96/2 | Survey No. 96/1 |
| 9. | 96/4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | Dalasagere Village Boundary | Survey No.95 | Survey Nos. 96/1 | Dalasagere Village Boundary |
| 10. | 97/1 | 2 | 37 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No.99 | Survey No. 97/2 | Survey No. 96/2 |
| 11. | 97/2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey No. 97/4 | Survey No.97/1 |
| 12. | 97/3 | 0 | 32 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey No.97/5 | Survey No. 97/4 |
| 13. | 97/4 | 0 | 38 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey No. 97/3 | Survey No. 97/2 |
| 14. | 97/5 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey No. 98/2 | Survey No. 97/3 |
| 15. | 98/1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey No.98/3 | Survey No. 98/2 |
| 16. | 98/2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey No. 98/1 | Survey No. 97/5 |
| 17. | 98/3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey No. 98/4 | Survey No. 98/1 |
| 18. | 98/4 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey No. 98/5 | Survey No. 98/3 |
| 19. | 98/5 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey Nos. 98/6 | Survey No. 98/4 |
| 20. | 98/6 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No. 99 | Survey No. 98/7 | Survey No. 98/5 |
| 21. | 98/7 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | Raghupathi Hosahalli Village boundary | Survey No.99 | Survey Nos. 6 and 7 | Survey No. 98/6 |

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**Trilegal,**
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Date: 20.02.2025
Place: Bangalore

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ
**ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.**
**ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂ: ಐಎಫ್‌ಟಿ–29/ಎಇ–1/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ:– 18.02.2025**
**ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**
ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ : ಈ ಕಚೇರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಕಾಅ/ದಾವಿದಾ/ಐ.ಎಫ್.ಟಿ–29/ಎಇ–1/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18.02.2025.
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ವಿಭಾಗ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ, ಹರಿಹರ, ಚನ್ನಗಿರಿ, ಹೊನ್ನಾಳಿ ಮತ್ತು ಜಗಳೂರು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕೆಟಿಪಿಪಿ–2000ರನ್ವಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ **ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ :5054–03–337–0–17–154 ಯೋಜನೆ (ರಾಜ್ಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ಸುಧಾರಣೆ) ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಯಡಿ 02 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ 100.00 ಲಕ್ಷ, ಗರಿಷ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 300.00 ಲಕ್ಷ, ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ : 5054–03–337–0–17–160 ಯೋಜನೆ(ರಾಜ್ಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ನವೀಕರಣ) ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಯಡಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 2 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ 200.00 ಲಕ್ಷ, ಗರಿಷ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 500.00 ಲಕ್ಷ, ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ : 5054–04–337–0–01–154 ಯೋಜನೆ(ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳು ಸುಧಾರಣೆ) ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಯಡಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 6 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ 100.00 ಲಕ್ಷ, ಗರಿಷ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 220.00 ಲಕ್ಷ, ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ : 5054–04–337–0–01–160 ಯೋಜನೆ (ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳ ನವೀಕರಣ) ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಯಡಿ 2 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ರೂ. 200.00 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ : 8443– ಠೇವಣಿ ವಂತಿಕೆ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಯಡಿ 01 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 9,88,097.00ಗಳಿಗೆ,** ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರಿಂದ ಏಕ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಮತ್ತು ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಅನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. **ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟೆ** ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27.02.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ 28.02.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಮತ್ತು **ಏಕ ಲಕೋಟೆ** ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 04.03.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ 05.03.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಸದರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ (ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 08192 234951, 231530) ಅಥವಾ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/768/ಕೆಎಸ್.ಎಂಸಿಎ/2024–25
**ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ**

**The Office of Executive Engineer, No.4, HLBC Division,**
CNNL, Turuvekere. Tel. 08139-287353
E-Mail-eeturuvekerediv4@gmail.com
**KPPP Portal Item rate Term Tender Notification**
**No: 11/2024-25 Dated : 17.02.2025**
**'Two Tender Document System'**
On behalf of the Managing Director CNNL, Banglore, Executive Engineer No.4, HLBC Division Turuvekere has invited Two cover ITEM RATE tender through KPPP portal from Contractors. Karnataka transpa rency act GO no FD9PCL2004 Dated 06-08-2005 and as per latest amendements, Registered in procure ment cell Centre for e-governance Room no 141, 2nd gate M.S. Building, Bangalore-560001 KPWD any other Govt. organization and enrolled their name in CNNL.
Name of Work:- 1. Construction of Pickup and Pipe culverts across halla near sy no 21 &22 and other Improvements work in Manakikere village of Honnavalli hobli of Tiptur taluk (CNNL/2024-25/BR/WORK_INDENT–2498) Amount put to tender : 124.57lakhs, EMD Amount:Rs.186900/-. 2. Improve ments to Burdeghatta tank and yedehalli tank coming under tumkuru branch canal in nonavina kere hobli tipturu taluk tumakuru district (CNNL/2024-25/IW/ WORK_INDENT-2499) Amount put to tender: 415.10 lakhs, EMD Amount: Rs.622700/,
* Last date to submit tender online Dated: 19-02-2025 to 06-03-2025 (upto 5.00 PM) * Last date for any queries relating to process of bid clarification Dated: 25-02-2025 (upto 5.00PM) * Pre Bid Meeting Date : 27-02-2025, 11.00 AM, Venue : Chief Engineer Office Hemavathy canal zone Tumkur. * Opening of Technical bid in E-Procurement on Dated: 07-03-2025 (after 5.30 PM), * Opening of Financial bid in E-Procurement on Dated: 10-03-2025 (after approval of technical bid) For any further details please contact https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ and in office during working hours.
**Sd/-** Executive Engineer,
No.4, HLBC Division,CNNL Turuvekere.
DIPR/TUM/647/KSMCA/2024-25

## Lokayukta has become 'clean chit guarantee machine': Ashok

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The BJP mocked the Lokayukta for giving a clean chit to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the MUDA case, calling the institution a 'clean chit guarantee machine'.

Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R. Ashok took to X and said, "The Lokayukta investigation into MUDA land scam was an investigation of Siddaramaiah, by Siddaramaiah and for Siddaramaiah."

He further said that Congress Ministers and MLAs had given a clean chit to the Chief Minister and his wife even before the investigation had begun.

"So it is no surprise that the Lokayukta police has now submitted a B report, giving a clean chit to CM and his wife. The people of Karnataka did not expect that the Lokayukta investigation will bring justice in this case."

He said, however that the Chief Minister's "desperate efforts to bury the truth and jeopardise the justice" will not succeed.

# Lokayukta police give clean chit to CM, wife citing 'lack of evidence'

They say further inquiry will be conducted into the allotment of compensatory sites under the 50:50 ratio scheme from 2016 to 2024 under Section 173 (8) of the Cr. PC and submit an additional report to the court

MUDA CASE

**The Hindu Bureau**
MYSURU

The Lokayukta police probing the alleged irregularities in the allotment of compensatory sites by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) have given a clean chit to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, his wife, B.M. Parvathi, and two others by citing "lack of evidence" against them in the case.

A notice issued to complainant Snehamayi Krishna by the Lokayukta police on Wednesday said the allegations against accused No. 1 to No. 4 viz. Mr. Siddaramaiah, his wife, his brother-in-law Mallikarjunaswamy, and J. Devaraju, the seller of the land, could not be proved due to "lack of evidence".

The Lokayukta police said they would be submitting their final report on the probe to the special court dealing with criminal cases against sitting and former MLAs/MPs. If the complainant wishes to oppose the report, he has been asked to do so before the magistrate of the special court within a week of receiving the notice, which is dated February 19.

The office of the Superintendent of the Lokayukta police in Mysuru.
M.A. SRIRAM

The Lokayukta police also said they would be conducting further inquiry into the allotment of compensatory sites under the 50:50 ratio scheme from 2016 to 2024 under Section 173 (8) of the Cr. PC and submit an additional report to the court.

Meanwhile, sources in the Lokayukta police said the probe report would be submitted to the special court on Thursday and the next hearing in the matter was scheduled for February 24.

**What is the MUDA case?**
It may be mentioned here that the Lokayukta police registered an FIR against

Siddaramaiah

Mr. Siddaramaiah, his wife, and two others in the alleged MUDA scam on September 27, 2024, by invoking the provisions of Indian Penal Code (IPC); Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988; the Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, 1988; and the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Act, 2011, as per the directions of the special court. The FIR was booked under sections 120B, 166, 403, 406, 420, 426, 465, 468, 340, and 351 of the IPC, sections 9 and 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act of 1988, sections 3, 53, and 54 of the Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, 1988, and sections 3 and 4 of the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Act, 2011.

**Petition dismissed**
The FIR was booked following the special court's directions after the High Court of Karnataka dismissed Mr. Siddaramaiah's petition against Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot's move to sanction permission for an investigation against him in the alleged MUDA scam.

Mr. Krishna had alleged a series of irregularities in the allotment of 14 sites measuring a total of 38,284 sq. ft by MUDA as compensation to Ms. Parvathi in lieu of 3 acres and 16 guntas of land at Kesare on the outskirts of Mysuru that had been acquired by the authority for developing Devanur 3rd Stage layout in Mysuru. Mr. Siddaramaiah's brother-in-law had purchased the land at Kesare from Mr. Devaraju and gifted it to Ms. Parvathi.

It may also be mentioned here that Ms. Parvathi has since surrendered all the 14 sites and MUDA had taken possession of the same.

## 'Come out with White Paper on State's finances before presenting Budget'

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Alleging that Karnataka is heading towards "financial bankruptcy" due to mismanagement, the Opposition BJP on Wednesday urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to come out with a White Paper on the financial condition of the State before presenting the State Budget.

"It is the duty of the Chief Minister, who is set to present the State Budget for the record 16th time on March 7, to inform people of the real position of finances before presenting the Budget," BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra told the media in Bengaluru.

**Deteriorating condition**
The BJP leader termed the Chief Minister's claims that Karnataka's financial condition is good as "far from true". "In fact, the financial condition is deteriorating day by day," he remarked. "This is evident in the fact that the government is struggling to pay the salaries of its staff and the guarantee schemes have stopped reaching the beneficiaries in the last four to six months. Also, the service charges for various facilities have seen a sharp increase," he alleged.

He further stated that the loan burden of Karnataka had increased by ₹1.9 lakh crore in the last two years of Congress administration.

**Charges of services**
"The Chief Minister is under an illusion that people of the State are happy with the guarantee schemes. But in reality, people are

B.Y. Vijayendra

paying the price for guarantees as the government has increased the charges of various services to raise resources for guarantees. For example, the property registration charges have gone up by 600%, the property guidance value has been increased by 30% while vehicle registration fee has gone up by 10% and services charges in government hospitals have been increased by 5%," he alleged. He pointed out that the government was considering yet another hike in selling prices of milk and power tariff.

**Inadequate funds**
Similarly, various departments of the government did not even have adequate funds to pay their power bills, he alleged, while pointing out that the Energy Department was yet to get dues to the tune of ₹6,000 crore from various departments towards power bills.

Taking exception to the State government's charges that the Centre is responsible for the Namma Metro fare hike, he wondered why the metro fares have not been increased in other cities then. He claimed that the "pressure from the State government" had resulted in metro fare hike.

# Complainant takes exception to Lokayukta police response

**The Hindu Bureau**
MYSURU

Activist Snehamayi Krishna has taken serious exception to the Lokayukta police issuing a notice to him citing lack of evidence against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, his wife B.M. Parvathi, and two others in the alleged irregularities in the allotment of sites by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA).

Speaking to reporters in Mysuru after receiving a copy of the notice issued to the complainant by the Lokayukta police, Mr. Krishna claimed that his doubts about the impartiality of Lokayukta police had proven true. He vowed to prove the charges he had levelled against Mr. Siddaramaiah.

He also alleged that the Lokayukta police had "sold their conscience", "come

Snehamayi Krishna

under the influence of politicians," saying they had conducted themselves against the demands of their duty. "Even though I had furnished enough evidence, they have falsely claimed lack of evidence," he reiterated.

Mr. Krishna said it was shameful that an IPS officer was unable to analyse the evidence gathered during the course of the investigation. He asked the investigating officer or the CM to produce the government notification dated 11/02/2015 that has been cited in the order issued by MUDA to allot compensatory sites under the 50:50 ratio scheme. He also questioned the need for the Lokayukta police to file a B report citing lack of evidence even before completing the entire investigation into the allotment of compensatory sites under the 50:50 ratio scheme.

Referring to the Lokayukta police stating that it will conduct a further inquiry into the allotment of compensatory sites under 50:50 ratio scheme from 2016 to 2024, Mr. Krishna said it was a clear admission that the investigation was not yet complete. "Who asked them to submit a report before completing the probe," he questioned, claiming that it was clear that the Lokayukta police wanted to protect the accused and give them a clean chit as early as possible.

## DKS to meet Jal Shakti Minister on February 25

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has said that he would meet the Union Jal Shakti Minister on February 25 to discuss issues pertaining to all irrigation projects in the State.

"The Union Jal Shakti Minister has given us time on February 25. I will discuss Mekedatu, Mahadayi and Upper Krishna project proposals and also seek the release of announced funds for various irrigation projects," he said, speaking to the reporters on the sidelines of the All-India State Water Ministers' Conference 2025.

"This conference is highlighting best practices in water resource management across states. The key objective is conservation and recycling of water. The State's problems must be resolved without being looked at through a political lens. The Centre must also resolve stalemates between riparian states," he noted.

# BJP rebels' meeting today may finalise a State-wide campaign to broaden their support base

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Close on the heels of rebel leader Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal replying to the show-cause notice issued to him by the party's central disciplinary committee, BJP rebels are set to hold a meeting in Bengaluru on Thursday in which they are likely to finalise a State-wide campaign to broaden their support base.

It is learnt that the BJP rebels meeting in Bengaluru are keen to take up a campaign seeking the deportation of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh on the lines of their earlier campaign on eviction notices issued by Waqf Board to farmers and others on encroachments. This is being seen in the party as an effort to directly connect with party cadre.

Though the rebels were in the news earlier for their statements against the BJP State leadership, they had taken their detractors by surprise when they embarked upon a State-wide parallel campaign on the Waqf issue. This campaign had received more publicity than the party's official campaign in some places.

The rebels are also likely to take stock of the situation in the BJP State unit in which the process of election or selection of the State president is reaching the final stage. It is learnt that the rebels, who are opposed to any possibility of incumbent president B.Y. Vijayendra continuing at the helm, may discuss the opportunities left to them to counter him.

**'Don't call them rebels'**
Meanwhile, Mr. Vijayendra, who addressed a press conference in Bengaluru on Wednesday, desisted from attacking the rebels, while replying to queries on their activities unlike on previous occasion when he had lashed out at them and the neutral group of leaders in the party. In fact, he took exception to the media referring to them as "rebels" and said they were "leaders of the party."

Sticking to his stand that the party high command knew everything and would resolve any internal differences, he said he would work with everyone to strengthen the party to revive the old image that Karnataka was BJP's gateway for South India.

Seeking to remove confusion over the election to the post of president, he clarified that so far such a process had been completed only in 10 states. The election of State president would be taken up after the completion of election of district unit presidents which was likely to be completed in about two days, he said.

Incidentally, Mr. Vijayendra is also holding a meeting with Leaders of the Opposition in Legislature Houses R. Ashok and Chalavadi Narayanaswamy with respect to a preliminary workshop that is being held at the party's State headquarters on alleged misuse of funds under SCP-TSP.

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**
**MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION & URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**
ANDHRA PRADESH SECRETARIAT, AMARAVATHI

**NOTIFICATION**

Rc. No. 978043/I/2025, Dated:19.02.2025

Applications are invited for filling up of the posts of two vacancies (One Town Planning Technical member & One Administrative Member) in AP Real Estate Appellate Tribunal, from the eligible candidates, according to the eligibility criteria as narrated under Rule 33 of AP Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Rules, 2017 issued in G.O.Ms. No.115 MA&UD (H) Dept., dated 27.03.2017.

The interested and eligible candidates shall send their applications along with documents supporting their request in sealed envelopes addressed to Sri S. Suresh Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government, MA&UD & Member, Selection Committee for AP REAT, Room No-140, Ground Floor, Building No-2, A.P Secretariat, Velagapudi, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh-522503. The detailed web notification along with requisite qualification, eligibility criteria and application format is available in **https://www.ap.gov.in.**

The last date for receipt of the applications is **05.00 PM on dt 13.03.2025.**

**S. Suresh Kumar, IAS,**
**Principal Secretary to Government, MA&UD & Member, Selection Committee for AP REAT**

**ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು ಹಾಗೂ ಪದನಿಮಿತ್ತ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ಸಮನ್ವಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ,**
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಕಲಾಸಿಪಾಳ್ಯಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–02
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ : egovbangaloresouth@gmail.com, Phone: 080-26705415

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಸಿ2/ಸ.ಶಿ.ಕ/DIRQ/ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಲ್ಯಾಬ್ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ/40/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.02.2025

**ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ**

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**IN MEMORIAM**

**Kamala Kasturi**
**2.04.1933 — 20.02.2023**

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Amount put to Tender : **Rs.2,44,65,000/-** EMD : **Rs.3,67,000/-**

The last date for submission of completed tender document is on 01.03.2025 before 15.00 hrs. and the bids will be opened on 02.03.2025 at 16.00 hrs. The details regarding participation in the tendering process and tender can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the below signed office during working hours.

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## George's comment on guarantee flayed

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Energy Minister K.J. George's statement ahead of the legislature session – that guarantee schemes are not salaries to be given every month – has triggered a row with the BJP who called this 'an insult to people of the State'.

Taking to X, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok said that the voters were not begging the government to provide these guarantees and that they had not even requested the Congress to provide such guarantees before the polls.

"Your party announced the guarantee scheme just to come to power. If it is possible for you, implement these schemes in a dignified manner, or drop them. But do not try to insult the voters," he said.

**TAMILNADU MOTOR VEHICLE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT,**
VELACHERY, CHENNAI-600 042.

In Tamilnadu Motor Vehicle Maintenance Department e-tenders are invited during the month of February 2025 – March 2025, for the **Supply of Tyres** for the year 2025 – 2026, coming under the maintenance purview of this department. The details regarding downloading of tender documents, last date for submission of e- tender, opening date of e- tender and the terms and conditions of e - tender may be viewed in the Government Website **https://tntenders.gov.in**

**Sd/.. K.Senthilvel**
**Director**

DIPR/680/Tender/2025

# Etched in history: The human side of the mighty Chola kings and queens

Kanisetti's new book looks at the rulers as people who were pushing and pulling and reshaping the fabric of their world. A recent discussion on the book threw light on these aspects of history

**Preeti Zachariah**
BENGALURU

Anirudh Kanisetti's *Lords of Earth and Sea: A History of the Chola Empire* opens with a poignant scene. It describes the Cheran princess Kokkilan Adikal wiping the tears off her cheeks as she leaves her native Malabar coast in a palanquin, travelling east to be married to "an up-and-coming king with a dangerous reputation."

The man Kanisetti is referring to is the Chola emperor, Parantaka, "the foe-destroyer", a third-generation ruler who "killed his half-brother, took the Chola throne and set about marrying women left and right," at least 10 others, in addition to Kokkilan, all from "rich, landed families."

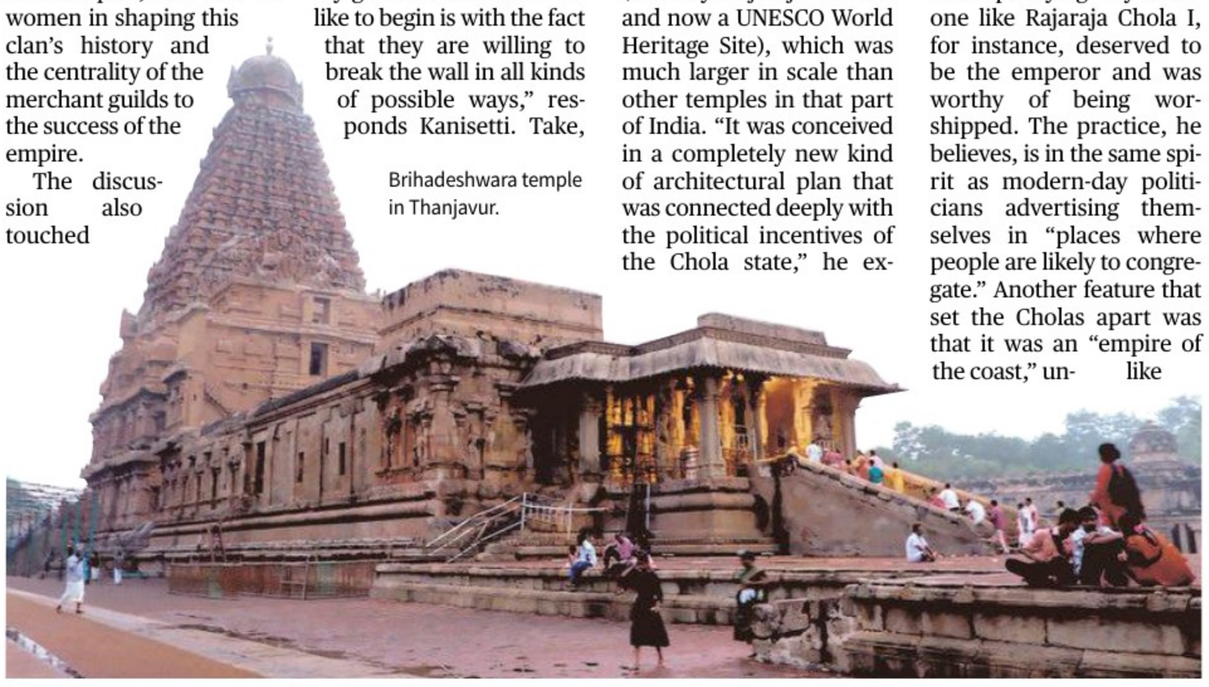
This scene, one of the many vivid episodes described in Kanisetti's book about the Imperial Chola empire, was read and discussed recently at The Bangalore Room, Indiranagar. What came out in the conversation between writer and podcaster Ramjee Chandran and Kanisetti were intriguing aspects of the lives and reign of the Cholas, including the rationale behind the building of massive temples, the role of women in shaping this clan's history and the centrality of the merchant guilds to the success of the empire.

The discussion also touched upon how the book draws on literary techniques such as character-building, scene-setting and plot development to delve into "the human part of history," as Chandran puts it. The traditional way of approaching history as taught in school makes it "a very dry and boring litany of kings and their successions, their battles and dates, dates, dates." History, however, can also be told "at the junction of different possibilities...for example, architecture, art, culture, language, epigraphy," believes Chandran. "Where it all overlaps is where the story blossoms."

### A different sort of empire

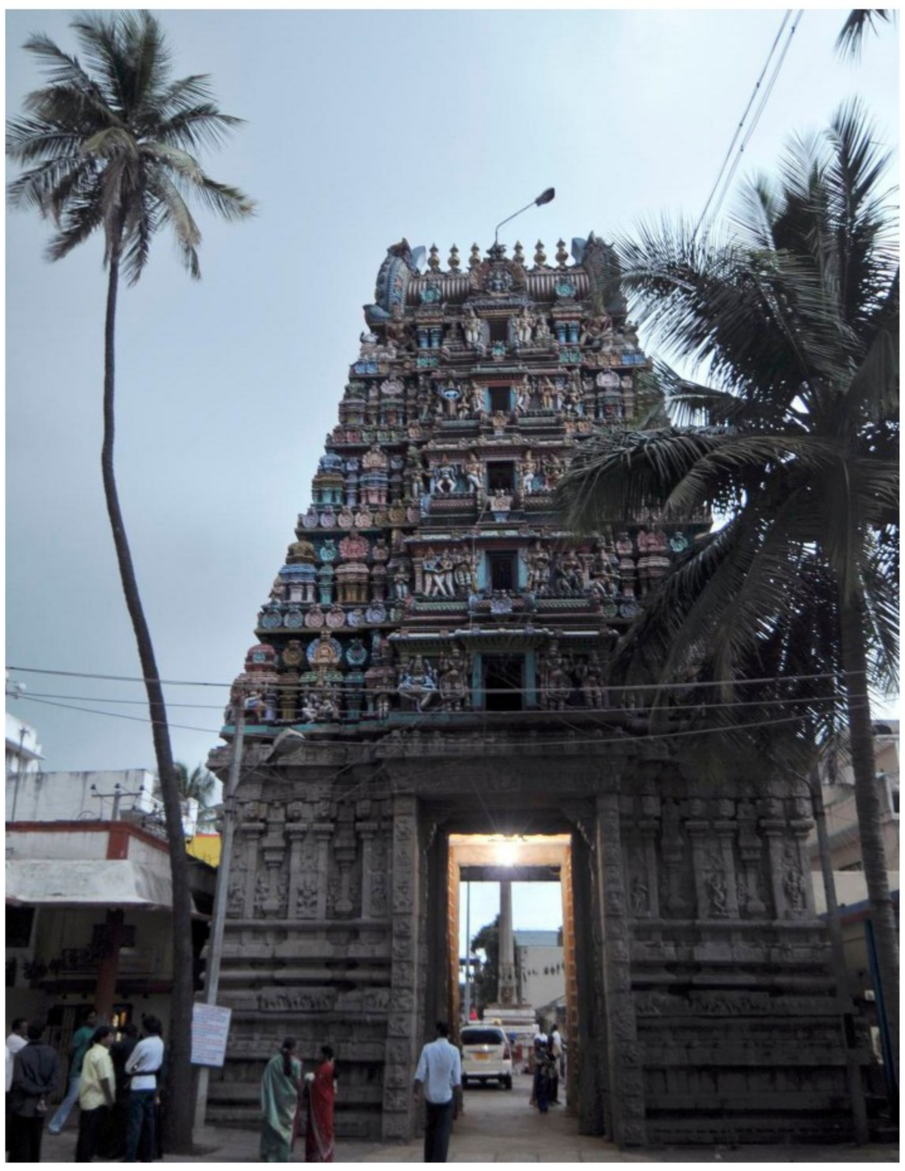
In the introduction of *Lords of Earth and Sea,* Kanisetti writes that the Cholas were a "peasant clan" that arose in the Kaveri floodplain "seemingly out of nowhere" more than a thousand years ago, from the mid-9th century till the mid-13th century. During this period, the Chola dynasty would evolve into one filled with "great King-of-Kings."

So, what made the Cholas so unique? "There are so many that I could possibly get into. But where I'd like to begin is with the fact that they are willing to break the wall in all kinds of possible ways," responds Kanisetti. Take,



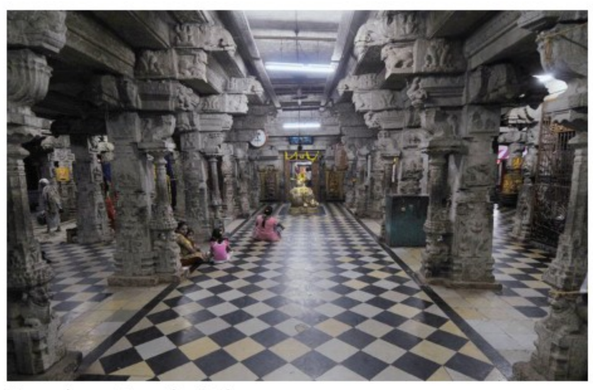
Brihadeshwara temple in Thanjavur.

for starters, their building prowess. The Cholas built massive, magnificent temples, such as the Brihadisvara Temple at Thanjavur (built by Rajaraja Chola I and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site), which was much larger in scale than other temples in that part of India. "It was conceived in a completely new kind of architectural plan that was connected deeply with the political incentives of the Chola state," he explains. According to him, building these large temples was a clever "media strategy," with royal edicts inscribed on these temple walls specifying why someone like Rajaraja Chola I, for instance, deserved to be the emperor and was worthy of being worshipped. The practice, he believes, is in the same spirit as modern-day politicians advertising themselves in "places where people are likely to congregate." Another feature that set the Cholas apart was that it was an "empire of the coast," unlike the other great Indian empires such as the Vijayanagara and Chalukya empires of the South or the Mauryan and Gupta empires up North. "These are empires of river valleys," he says. While most of us think of the Cholas as an empire of the Kaveri, their reach went far beyond.



A view of Someshwara Temple at Ulsoor. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

The Chola empire, he says, was able to project power the way it did, not just into the upland Deccan but across the seas, including in Sri Lanka and the Malay peninsula, because they controlled vast swathes of India's coast. At a time when it took much longer for goods and information to travel, the Cholas were able to transport enormous amounts of granite, men, and rice effectively throughout the empire, thanks to their close alliance with large merchant corporations, believes Kanisetti.



Someshwara Temple at Ulsoor. FILE PHOTO

An inside view of the Brihadeshwara temple in Thanjavur. FILE PHOTO

**The discussion also touched on the role of women in the Chola Kingdom, an attribute that seems to have played a key role in their success.**

According to him, there is a clear connection between these merchant clans, such as the Aihole or Ayyavole 500, and state expansion. "These are remarkable guys. The boundary between a merchant, a warrior, and a courtier is quite blurry." It is possible, he says, to see the same person working as a merchant in one year and a courtier the next. The power and reach of the merchant guilds enabled the Cholas to think out of the box in so many ways "because if so many merchants are connected to your court, you have the logistical apparatus to send the armies far away," he says. "I don't think it is a coincidence that wherever the Cholas expand, you see merchants setting up soon after."

### Powerful women

The discussion also touched on the role of women in the Chola Kingdom, yet another attribute that seems to have set the Cholas apart and played a key role in their success. "The only time you hear about women in history is when they do everything that the men have done, and that means that they are rulers like Razia Sultana and others," says Chandran. In reality, many royal women were "actually very, very capable, highly educated, intensely involved in the way that the kingdoms ran..."

*Lords of Earth and Sea* pays plenty of attention to historical women, including their impact on Chola architectural styles. Kanisetty elaborates, "While the men would go to war, the queens would build temples. And, in a lot of ways, what Rajaja Chola is doing with this temple-building media strategy is building on the foundation established by his great-aunt Sembiyan Mahadevi."

Sembiyan Mahadevi, the wife of Gandaraditya Chola, was the daughter of the chief of the Kongu region, who came to the Chola court with a relatively meagre dowry: a herd of ungulates. But she had a keen political mind, says Kanisetti. "Sembiyan makes her gifts of goats and sheep to a temple on the northern frontier of the Cholas where they are expanding. So, what she is doing is putting it in a strategic side where loyalties to the Chola family are not fully formed, and she is using her gift to make herself visible to the new subjects."

In around 972 CE, when her son Uttama ascends the throne, and she becomes the dowager queen. "This woman, who came to the Chola family with little more than sheep and goats, has command of the royal treasury, and she immediately starts building temples," says Kanisetti. She went on to build at least 12 temples that we know of, all strategically located and with a standard inscription proclaiming the glory of the Cholas. Sembiyan thus lays the foundation for what Rajaraja eventually does.

### Legacy and more

Most of us think of the Cholas as a "Tamil empire", but it is really a South Indian polity... a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-regional that changed the history of not just South India but more broadly of the world, remarks Kanisetti, pointing out that practices such as the burning of camphor at our altars, processions of Gods, the ubiquity of Nataraja sculptures and the addition of gopurams in many Dravidian-style temples can all be traced back to the Cholas. "These 300 years of Chola rise and fall is the creation of South India as we know it," he says.

While *Lords of Earth and Sea* does capture this rise and fall, the various factors that shaped this empire that lasted for several centuries, at its very heart, it is a story "of people who are pushing and pulling and reshaping the fabric of their world," says Kanisetti.

The people of the past didn't live exemplary lives to teach us some moral lessons a thousand years later, he remarks. Instead, Kanisetti sees them as human beings "like you and me." They were, essentially, "people who could not imagine that one day we would be looking to them with this yearning to fulfil some nationalist need or emotional need, but people who just lived interesting and vivid and human lives."

# Bharat Gandharva Yatra kicks Off in Bengaluru

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The 16th annual music festival Bharat Gandharva Yatra, hosted by the Bharatiya Samagana Sabha, commenced on Wednesday at the Chowdiah Memorial Hall in Vyalikaval with the main concert featuring Lakshmi Nagaraj and Indu Nagaraj. The festival will run until February 23, showcasing performances by acclaimed artistes.

The programme for Thursday, February 20, will start at 5.15 p.m. with *Mysore Dasara Darbar*, a performance by Sumanth Manjunath and Shadaj Godkhindi.

Following this, the Trichur Brothers Srikrishna Mohan and Ramkumar Mohan will take the stage for a vocal duet at 6.45 p.m. On Friday, February 21, the programme will begin with a classical devotional music by Sooryagathathri at 5.15 p.m., followed by a Hindustani devotional music performance by Aarya Ambekar and team at 6.45 p.m.

Saturday, February 22, will start with a Hindustani music performance by Aryya Banik at 5.15 p.m. The evening will culminate with Tirumala Nadaneerajanam, a vocal concert by Sandeep Narayan and his team at 6.45 p.m.

The festival will conclude on Sunday, February 23, with a performance by Ranjani Gayatri and team, who will present a vocal duet at 6.45 p.m. Before the concert, Shashank Subramanyam will receive the 13th Samagana Mathanga National award.

# *Archives at NCBS to launch one lakh new objects for public to view*

The archives come in various forms: letters, negatives, glass plates, photographs, audio recordings, scientific equipment, letters, and field and lab notes

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Archives at NCBS, a public centre for the history of science in contemporary India, will launch one lakh new archival objects across 20 collections and 100+ years on February 22, Saturday.

### Rarely documented histories

According to the website of the Archives, "these include rarely documented histories of women, communities and social movements," it states, adding that these come in various forms: negatives, glass plates, photographs, audio recordings, scientific equipment, letters, and field and lab notes and from all fields of science and mathematics.

National Centre for Biological Sciences. FILE PHOTO

"How it speaks to us is even more diverse. You'll see labour, class, gender, politics, humour, and so much more in the collection."

In addition to these collections, the Archives will also present several public-facing projects launched in 2024 as well as launch a new exhibition, "Untitled, Undated", at the Archives gallery.

"The exhibition presents material at the archives as objects that are abundant and fragmented - revealing the confusion of making sense of it and the doubts, biases, curiosities, and speculations of the people who engage with it," states the website.

*The event is free and open to the public.*

*To know more, log into https://www.ncbs.res.in/events/archives-six.*

## FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

**FIFTY YEARS AGO** FEBRUARY 20, 1975

### Exchanges in Assembly Over Harijan's Death

Bangalore, Feb. 19: In the Karnataka Assembly today the Opposition and the Government repeatedly clashed over murder of a Harijan at Kodihalli of Hoskote taluk in January.

At one stage the Agricultural Minister, Mr. N. Chikke Gowda, who hails from Hoskote, threw a challenge that if anything connecting him with the case could be proved he would resign both as a Minister and as a member of the House.

### TV Picture Tubes: BEL to Help Set up Firm in W. Bengal

Bangalore, Feb. 19: An agreement has been signed between Bharat Electronics Limited and the West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation for forming a new company to be located in West Bengal for the manufacture of television picture tubes. They will hold equity shares in the new company in the ratio of 51 per cent and 49 per cent respectively.

# All in the family

A Separate Reality, currently underway in the city, showcases the artistic stylings of the Goa-based De Sousa family

**This is us** A Separate Reality by the De Sousas (far left) Nadia, Francis and Verodina (below). SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**Ruth Dhanaraj**

Three artists, three distinct styles, one family. Meet the De Sousas – Francis, Verodina and Nadia – whose works are on display at Gallery Time And Space. Through their work, one not only gets a glimpse of life in Goa, but also an insight into human nature. Tinged with equal parts of humour and reality, this familial display of creativity will have viewers either wanting to revisit their favourite beach town or wondering how human beings can be the same everywhere, or perhaps both.

Over a phone call from Goa, the family spoke about their work, their lives and A Separate Reality, their first-ever exhibition together.

### A day in the life

"There's always space to keep improving, keep growing, and the subject matter is what I see in my day-to-day life," says Francis De Sousa. "It's not that I'm not bothered by what happens in the political arena, but I choose not to display it in my work. I choose to take a diametrically different direction, where I paint a better picture, with hopes and dreams of a better life."

Most of Francis' works such as The Salesman or The Fish Eaters are a simple depiction of the quiet life in a small town. Brightly and boldly executed in watercolour, gouache and acrylic, one can easily relate to the everyday images. Others such as Lonely in the Garden, The Painter or First Date, have you looking inwards.

"What do you do on a holiday? You are in a quiet place, not asking any deep philosophical questions about life. That's the sort of thing I try to portray. I don't consciously think of my work in terms of style. I just paint the way I can."

"I enjoy colour and that is why most of my pieces are so colourful," he says, adding, "One of my hobbies is to collect paints and I have brands from all over the world. When you are selling your work, you have to give your clients the best – the best material, paper and paint. There is never any compromise on that."

Most of the works on display at A Separate Reality were created for this show, says Francis, who last had a show in Bengaluru in 2008. "I draw almost incessantly and perhaps, out of four or five images, one of those turns into a painting." He adds that his subject matter is never pre-decided as, "I feel that that would limit me."

And while Life in itself is a muse that constantly surprises, Francis says, "I am terrified of stagnation, of getting stuck in a rut. You're always in that area of self doubt. You don't know whether you're good enough, always wondering how good or how bad you are. "

"One has to be adventurous. For me, art is an adventure, and I have to keep reinventing myself. You may not sell as much, but there is always the prospect of discovery."

### Channeling an inner drive

Easily the most reticent of the three, Verodina De Sousa says her deepest expressions come out through her work. A terracotta artist for over four decades, Verodina has been working in stoneware for the past six years.

"Normally when I'm working, I go into a state of mental silence. I get in touch with my inner self and my hands synchronise with what I'm feeling within," says Verodina, who starts her day with a period of meditation. "My creations do not happen at a conscious level, but rather a subconscious one."

She adds that her creativity takes its own course, and once the figures emerge she ponders on her work, relying on "what I was feeling at the time of creating." However, she does admit that she doesn't like naming her work as it, "limits the scope of an artist's perception."

Crafted with stoneware ceramics and ranging in size from a couple of inches to not more than two feet, Verodina's works in their soft shades are adorable to say the least. Pieces such as Taken for a Ride and The Red Herring make you smile, while others such as Off Track, Channelled by Love and The Bibliomaniac are a throwback to a more calmer pace of life.

"Normally, colours used on ceramic work tend to be loud and jarring. but they are not in sync with what I am trying to show. I use muted shades as I feel those are best suited for my pieces. I try to portray the inner peace I experience through my work as it is not something describable or tangible. Those are the colours I link to peacefulness," she says.

The fine art painter continues, "When I feel something stirring in me, I channel that energy into my work and create about two or three pieces. I keep working until I start feeling a sense of dryness or emptiness. I go back to work only after I feel refreshed."

### Tongue-in-cheek humour

At first glance, Nadia De Sousa's work is cutesy and whimsical, but if you can see past the humour, you are sure to glimpse something else.

"Everybody interprets art in different ways. To me, humour in life is everything, because it's my way of coping. Whether I am watching a movie or reading a book, it has to have an underlying sense of humor and that is true of my work as well. I take a slightly dark situation and make it funny," says Nadia.

"Most of my work has a dark undertone – either somebody is getting eaten or something is being stolen or cats are being held against their will by a rat. Although it comes off as appealing to children as well as adults, I think it is meant mainly for adults," she adds.

Populated by woodland creatures failing to observe social mores, Nadia's canvases are brilliantly hued masterpieces of wordplay and tongue-in-cheek humour. For instance, *She Screamed Bloody Murder*, depicting a redhead calmly lounging on a picnic blanket even as a flock of crows make off with a little white mouse, will appeal to those with a command of the language and a smidgen of pop culture trivia.

The same can be said of *The Wedding At Hormuz* or *The OrthoDAUNTist*, while others such as *Greedy Pigs* and *Loser Has to Eat a Worm*, speak volumes about the unpleasant side of human nature.

"I really enjoy it when people look at my work, and then suddenly chuckle because they've figured it out. I'm basically a storyteller and I do like a good story myself. When I was growing up, my father would would make up fairy tales about fantastical things for me; somehow that kind of storytelling is now part of my work," says the artist, who paints in watercolours and "a little bit of gouache".

Talking about *The Skunk Who Stole a Ferrari*, Nadia says, "It just came to me. Somehow the connection was made in my head after hearing the title *A Monk Who Sold His Ferrari* and I thought, 'That's a great idea for a painting', and I chuckled to myself. Coming up with ideas is the most difficult part, because you don't always think creatively. Sometimes everything comes to a halt and you need to reboot."

Plus, those ideas were not always there. Growing up in a household with artist parents, Nadia admits, "I went in a different direction from my parents though I too, studied at art college, like they did. However, while they had taken up painting, I chose applied art which is advertising and commercial art."

"But I absolutely hated it. I quit and decided to take a break in nature, spending about six months in the forests of South Goa with my uncle. It rejuvenated me and I suddenly discovered my style. That was in 2019," she says.

About the exhibition, Nadia says she specifically created works for this show. "I usually don't have my paintings at home apart from what I am practising on or doing for myself. When I came to know of this show about a year ago, I began creating for it. However, I left behind those works that felt forced and only brought along those that felt natural to me and where the ideas flowed," she says, talking about the selection process for A Separate Reality.

*A Separate Reality by the De Sousa family will be on display at Gallery Time and Space till February 23, 2025.*

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**Praveen Sudevan**

# *Lost and found*

Rishiraj Kulkarni comes across more as a mystic than a musician. His words are measured, his thoughts seem to stem from a place deeper than mere intellect. His journey, too, has been shaped by some of the most profound human minds.

As a child, he studied at the Sahyadri School, founded by the Krishnamurti Foundation of India, where the teachings of J Krishnamurti left an indirect yet indelible imprint on him. Later, his years at AR Rahman's KM Music Conservatory exposed him to a composer whose musical genius is deeply intertwined with his spirituality. And finally, his greatest influence was his guru, the late Ustad Zakir Hussain, whose presence itself carried a spiritual weight.

So, during our phone conversation, I ask Rishiraj a long-winding question about what he has learned from these towering figures, expecting an equally reflective response. But his answer is precisely three words:

"To just be."

Somewhat taken aback, I press further. "But that's so simple. It is probably difficult for most people to just be. Do you think you have realised how to just be? Does it come naturally to you?"

He pauses before answering, "Well, I don't know about the future, but at least at the moment, I like to believe that I am just being."

It becomes clear that for Rishiraj, music is not an end but a means. His pursuit is not virtuosity – it is presence.

Rishiraj's upcoming performance in Bengaluru as part of his Khoya Mein India tour is an invitation into this philosophy. Khoya Mein – which translates loosely to "I am lost" – was born out of Rishiraj's grief after Zakir Hussain's passing. "Losing my guru has made me feel lost, which is encapsulated in the words 'Khoya Mein.' But the meaning of these words is fluid. It signifies both loss and the beginning of a personal journey of exploration."

**To Sir with love** Rishiraj Kulkarni in concert. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

That journey has taken him across 12,000 kilometers, performing not just in auditoriums but in the most unexpected corners of the country. He, with his team has stopped at remote villages, offering music for free to the rural population, while also being aware of the ecological impact they are creating along this journey.

"Essentially, all we require from any venue is two tables and five plug points," he says. Even when there is no electricity, his setup is designed to run on batteries, ensuring that music reaches the most remote locations.

At each performance, Rishiraj blends the tabla, handpan, and Rav Vast, weaving them with the sounds of nature. "I developed a heightened sensitivity to sounds from a young age. The rustling of leaves, the way a finger scrubs against a leaf – these subtle sounds are a part of my awareness and my music."

When asked about his most significant lesson from Zakir Hussain, Rishiraj does not point to a technical aspect of music. Instead, he speaks of humility. "When we are born, we are like a dry sponge. Over time, we absorb knowledge, experiences, and ego. But to continue learning every day, we must squeeze the sponge, let go of ego, and start fresh. Zakir *ji* taught me that. His constant curiosity to learn every day was something I admired the most."

This tour is dedicated to his guru, though Zakir Hussain never knew it would be. "He was aware that I travel and perform, but he didn't know that this tour is in his memory. His reminder to me was always simple: 'Be yourself. Don't imitate. Take inspiration, but never lose your uniqueness.'"

Rishiraj's performances are never the same twice. His albums – *Home* and *The Woods* – are only one side of his musical expression. His live performances evolve, just like his philosophy.

"The essence remains the same, but the experience changes every time. Just like this conversation – if we had it tomorrow, the words might be different, but the essence would remain the same."

*Rishiraj Kulkarni will be performing at Jus 'Trufs Chocolate Shop and Cafe, Jakkur, on February 23, 4pm and 6pm. Tickets, at ₹499, on BookMyShow.*

## CITYBEATS

### Dynamic sounds

**FEBRUARY 22**
Windmills will host the Vicki Kristina Barcelona (VKB Band), a New York-based trio, celebrated for their imaginative reinterpretations of Tom Waits' music. The band features Rachelle Garniez, Amanda Homi and Mamie Minch.
*At Windmills, Whitefield, 9pm onwards. Tickets from ₹750 available on windmills-india.com.*

### Tipsy turvy

**FEBRUARY 21**
Begin the weekend with some live jazz and crafted cocktails. Called Tipsy Jazz, the event will feature performances by performers such as Chan Callie. Bengaluru-based Chan is known for her talent and passion for music.
*At The Drawing Room by Smoke House Deli, 7pm onwards. Call 8657738861 for details.*

# SC asks panel to look into T.N.'s plaints over Mullaperiyar dam

Committee should hold meeting with stakeholders in a week and submit status report in four weeks, directs SC; they should approach the court if the dispute between Kerala and Tamil Nadu persists despite best efforts, adds the Bench

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday directed a supervisory committee, constituted by the Centre on January 3 and chaired by the head of the National Dam Safety Authority, to look into the issues raised by Tamil Nadu against Kerala over maintenance of the 125-year-old Mullaperiyar dam.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and N. Kotiswar Singh said the committee must preferably find a solution acceptable to both the States. The committee must approach the top court in case the dispute persisted despite its best efforts, the Bench added.

**Balancing act:** The SC asked the committee to find a solution acceptable to both Kerala and Tamil Nadu. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The court also directed the panel to schedule a meeting with all stakeholders within a week. The necessary action to address the issues raised in the meeting must be addressed two weeks thereafter. The committee has to submit a status report within four weeks from February 19.

The Bench directed the Registry to refer all the petitions concerning the dam to the Chief Justice of India to be listed before one Bench, preferably a three-judge combination.

During the hearing, the Bench orally remarked that a certain hype has been created that any action by Tamil Nadu regarding the dam may spell disaster for Kerala.

"The State of Kerala on one hand raises the issue of comprehensive dam safety review, but on the other hand is obstructing in granting permissions and approvals for conveying materials and machinery to enable Tamil Nadu from completing the remaining strengthening works," the Tamil Nadu Water Resources Department had said in an application.

Tamil Nadu has sought the court to direct Kerala to allow Tamil Nadu to conduct the remaining strengthening works on the baby and earth dams; the grouting of the main dam; and permission to cut 15 trees to facilitate the strengthening of the baby dam.

In 2021, the Kerala government had made a strong pitch in the Supreme Court to decommission the "deteriorated" Mullaperiyar dam operated by Tamil Nadu and build a new one, saying phenomena like climate change, erratic and heavy rainfall and floods have made the spectre of catastrophe real and near. The suggestion for a new dam dates back to 1979.

# Six students booked for ragging junior in Kozhikode

**The Hindu Bureau**
KOZHIKODE

The police have registered a case against six third-year students of the Holy Cross Institute of Management and Technology at Eranhipalam in Kozhikode district of Kerala on charges of ragging a first-year BBA student on the campus on February 14.

The case was registered on Tuesday evening based on the victim's complaint.

According to the FIR, after a cultural event held on the campus around 6.45 p.m., the six senior students allegedly demanded that the fresher remove the sunglasses he had worn for the programme. When he refused, two seniors forcibly removed his sunglasses, then beat and kicked him.

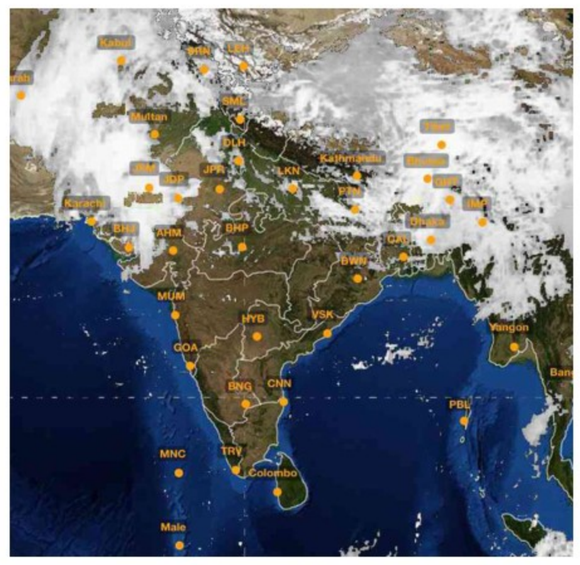
**Two suspended**

Principal Shiny George said the incident was reported to the police on February 14 itself. Based on the report of the anti-ragging committee and after reviewing the closed-circuit television footage, two students were suspended. Disciplinary action had been taken against six students, she said.

The police have charged the six suspects under Sections 126 (2) (wrongful restraint), 115 (2) (voluntarily causing hurt), and 3 (5) (when a criminal act is done by several persons in furtherance of a common intention) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, and Section 4 of the Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act.

## WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday




TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 14.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Thursday:** Heavy rainfall/snowfall with hail likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and Odisha. Thunderstorm with gusty winds/lightning likely at isolated places over Punjab, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN | CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agartala | — | 31.8 | 18.2 | Kozhikode | — | 35.2 | 24.9 |
| Ahmedabad | — | 35.4 | 19.9 | Kurnool | — | 37.7 | 23.2 |
| Aizawl | — | 29.5 | 12.6 | Lucknow | — | 29.7 | 12.2 |
| Allahabad | — | 31.8 | 14.6 | Madurai | — | 35.0 | 21.1 |
| Bengaluru | — | 34.4 | 17.8 | Mangaluru | — | 32.6 | 24.1 |
| Bhopal | — | 32.2 | 16.2 | Mumbai | — | 34.1 | 20.0 |
| Bhubaneswar | — | 33.7 | 22.2 | Mysuru | — | 34.5 | 15.1 |
| Chandigarh | — | 26.3 | 10.9 | New Delhi | — | 28.4 | 10.4 |
| Chennai | — | 31.3 | 22.9 | Patna | — | 29.4 | 17.5 |
| Coimbatore | — | 35.4 | 20.4 | Port Blair | — | 30.4 | 21.6 |
| Dehradun | — | 27.0 | 9.2 | Puducherry | — | 31.3 | 21.6 |
| Gangtok | 0.8 | 12.8 | 8.1 | Pune | — | 37.5 | 20.4 |
| Goa | — | 34.0 | 24.0 | Raipur | — | 34.6 | 20.9 |
| Guwahati | — | 28.3 | 12.5 | Ranchi | — | 29.8 | 16.4 |
| Hubballi | — | 34.0 | 22.0 | Shillong | — | 20.2 | 7.4 |
| Hyderabad | — | 35.8 | 21.3 | Shimla | — | 20.3 | 8.5 |
| Imphal | — | 25.7 | 13.9 | Srinagar | — | 17.4 | 3.5 |
| Jaipur | — | 28.5 | 15.8 | Thiruvananthapuram | — | 33.1 | 22.4 |
| Kochi | — | 32.0 | 24.4 | Tiruchi | — | 33.1 | 21.0 |
| Kohima | — | 20.0 | 6.7 | Vijayawada | — | 34.4 | 21.8 |
| Kolkata | — | 30.1 | 23.0 | Visakhapatnam | — | 31.4 | 23.0 |

*(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)*

**Pollutants in the air you are breathing**

| CITIES | $SO_2$ | $NO_2$ | CO | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | .46 | ..37 | 18 | ... 180 | ...149 | |
| Bengaluru | .12 | ..48 | 18 | ..... 75 | ...178 | |
| Chennai | ...6 | ..10 | 47 | ..... 99 | ...129 | |
| Delhi | .24 | 140 | 40 | ... 208 | ...203 | |
| Hyderabad | ...8 | ..54 | 79 | ... 119 | ...126 | |
| Kolkata | .12 | ..57 | 38 | ..... 76 | ....94 | |
| Lucknow | .12 | ..76 | 71 | ... 227 | ...179 | |
| Mumbai | .80 | ..67 | .— | ... 220 | ...226 | |
| Pune | ..— | 144 | 74 | ... 182 | ...122 | |
| Visakhapatnam | .10 | ..58 | 20 | ..... 85 | ...110 | |

**Yesterday**

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Hajipur, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 308 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 34

**Air Quality Code:** Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

**$SO_2$:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

**$NO_2$:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

# Pen cap stuck in man's lungs for 21 years removed

**The Hindu Bureau**
HYDERABAD

Doctors at KIMS in Telangana's Kondapur successfully removed a plastic pen cap that had remained inside a man's lungs for 21 years.

The 26-year-old patient from Karimnagar had unknowingly carried the 1 cm foreign object since the age of five, after accidentally swallowing it. Doctors got to know this after he sought medical attention for a persistent cough and unexplained weight loss.

His condition became severe in the last 10 days, making it difficult for him to sleep. Concerned about his deteriorating health, he consulted doctors, who conducted a CT scan revealing an infection in the lower left lung.

**Lump-like structure**

He was then referred to KIMS, where a more detailed scan was performed. "When the patient arrived, we conducted a CT scan, which revealed a lump-like structure inside his lungs. Initially, we suspected an obstruction responsible for his persistent cough. However, during the procedure, we discovered that the blockage was actually a pen cap," Consultant Clinical and Interventional Pulmonologist Dr. Shubhakar Nadella said.

Doctors performed a 3-hour procedure to remove the pen cap from the man's lungs.

When doctors enquired with the patient's elder brother about any childhood incidents, he recalled the patient had accidentally swallowed a pen cap at the age of five. At the time, a medical examination had shown no abnormalities, leading doctors to assume the object had passed naturally through the digestive system.

The procedure to remove the pen cap lasted nearly three hours. Using a flexible bronchoscopy, doctors cleared the surrounding tissue build-up, lymph nodes, and muscle formations before successfully extracting the object.

"Leaving foreign objects inside the body for such a long period is extremely dangerous. Had the patient delayed further, his lung tissue could have been permanently damaged," said Dr. Nadella.

## INBRIEF

### Three T.N. students killed as bus overturns in Munnar

Three students from Tamil Nadu were killed and 24 others injured after the tourist bus they were travelling in overturned at Kerala's Munnar on Wednesday. The accident happened around 2.30 p.m, police said. The three youth, students of BSc Computer Science at Scott Christian College in Nagercoil, were on a college trip when, according to eyewitnesses, the speeding bus lost control and overturned while negotiating a curve. One seriously injured student has been admitted to the Theni MCH while the other injured persons have been admitted to a hospital in Munnar.

### A.P., Telangana, Karnataka to solve water disputes amicably

Ministers for Water Resources and Irrigation from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka have decided to resolve water disputes through discussions. At a meeting at Udaipur in Rajasthan on Wednesday, Andhra Pradesh Minister for Water Resources Nimmala Ramanaidu and his Telangana and Karnataka counterparts Uttam Kumar Reddy and D.K. Shivakumar discussed issues such as water-sharing and Tungabhadra storage, among others. They emphasised the need for working together and taking collective decisions to ensure the welfare of farmers.

### Wild elephant fatally tramples tribal man in Kerala's Peechi

A tribal man was trampled to death by a wild elephant at Thamaravellachal within the Peechi Forest Division in Kerala's Thrissur district on Wednesday. Malayan Veetil Prabakaran, 60, from the Thamaravellachal tribal hamlet was attacked by the elephant around 8.30 a.m. while he was collecting forest produce used in traditional medicine. Prabakaran had gone to the forest with his son Manikandan and son-in-law Biju when they came under the elephant's attack at Ambazhachal, about 6 km deep in the woods. Manikandan and Biju escaped unhurt.

## *A stitch in time*

**Helping hands:** Veterinary experts give preliminary treatment to an injured elephant at Athirappilly in Kerala after tranquillising it on Wednesday morning. It was taken to the Abhayaranyam elephant camp at Kodanad for further treatment. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Samsung workers' union to intensify protest as talks fail

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHENNAI

The Additional Labour Commissioner on Wednesday convened one more round of negotiations between the Samsung India Workers Union (SIWU) and the Samsung management over the suspension of three union members. However, the talks ended without a resolution.

The SIWU, backed by the Centre of Indian Trade Unions, is looking to intensify its protest and planning a massive strike on March 7.

A section of the employees at Samsung's factory in Sriperumbudur has been on a strike for 15 days pressing various demands, including the reinstatement of the suspended workers. E. Muthukumar, District Secretary, CITU Kancheepuram, said the company was planning to suspend 18 more employees. The next round of talks is slated for February 24.

"We are planning to hold a protest in SIPCOT parks in Kancheepuram on February 21...," Mr. Muthukumar said. Meanwhile, Samsung India spokesperson said in a statement: "Samsung remains committed to resolving any issue by directly engaging with its workers. We do not condone illegal activities carried out by certain workers that threaten industrial peace and workplace safety. Our priority is to maintain a safe and stable workplace for all workers..."

# 2 stray dogs culled as they injure 9 persons in biting spree in A.P.

**The Hindu Bureau**
NELLIPAKA

Nine persons, including two women, were badly injured after two stray dogs went on a biting spree in Alluri Sitharama Raju district of Andhra Pradesh.

While seven persons were bitten by the strays on Tuesday, two were attacked on Wednesday, forcing the irate villages to eliminate the animals.

"Two stray dogs have reportedly attacked nine locals, including a worker from Bhadrachalam in Telangana, in the last 24 hours. Two of the victims are women. One person has been referred to the Bhadrachalam government hospital," T. Mallikarjuna, duty doctor at Nellipaka Primary Health Centre, told *The Hindu*.

**Vaccine administered**

The victims received multiple injuries, with one of them receiving a major injury on his head, Dr. Mallikarjuna said. All the injured persons have been administered the anti-rabies vaccine, he added.

# *From station to sanctum, no khakis*

Retired sub-inspector Sankaran Namboothiri serves as chief priest at a temple in Alappuzha which is managed by police officials; he had worked at the temple even before his retirement

**Sam Paul A.**
ALAPPUZHA

Nestled between the District Jail and the District Police Headquarters in the Civil Station ward of Alappuzha in Kerala stands the more than two-century-old Sri Mahaganapathi Temple, managed by the State Police Department. But what truly sets it apart is its chief priest, S. Sankaran Namboothiri, a retired police Sub-Inspector.

**Sacred service:** Sri Mahaganapathi Temple chief priest S. Sankaran Namboothiri offering prasadam to devotees. SURESH ALLEPPEY

For nearly three decades, Mr. Namboothiri had enforced the law by day and performed rituals at the temple at dawn and dusk until his retirement from service in 2018. Even after retiring, he continues to serve as the temple's chief priest.

The temple was originally built for soldiers when the present-day police headquarters served as a camp for the Travancore Army's coastal defence unit. Today, the temple's management is overseen by a committee of police officers.

"I joined the Police department as a constable in Thiruvananthapuram in 1988. Two years later, I was transferred to Alappuzha and assigned as a writer. One day, the AR camp commandant asked if I knew how to perform pujas. Having learnt temple rituals from my father, I was appointed as the temple's priest," recalls Mr. Namboothiri.

## Closer than ever

### India and Qatar have deepened their ties despite differences

The visit of the Qatari Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, a decade after his last visit to India, has led to a reaffirmation of the deep ties between two countries. While they do not always share the same worldview, both countries recognise each other's importance on the regional and global stage. For Qatar, India is a globally connected power, maintaining a balance with all players in the West Asian region including Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Iran and Israel. Indian expatriates are often seen as the backbone of Qatari economic activity. For India, Qatar is a Gulf power, a huge source of remittances and a partner with a major geo-strategic role. Qatar also provides 45% of India's LNG needs, which makes up about half of the bilateral trade of $15 billion between the two countries. While Qatar is home to a U.S. military base, which houses the U.K. and Australian air forces, it has also hosted groups such as the Hamas and the Taliban, and maintains ties with regional militia groups. In its recent decision to broaden its engagement with the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, the Narendra Modi government has leaned on the Qatari leadership. In addition, the Qatari Amir's decision to pardon eight former Indian naval personnel, reportedly accused of spying and handed the death sentence in 2023, has helped forge a closer understanding. It is fitting and long overdue, therefore, that after the talks in Delhi, India and Qatar decided to upgrade ties to a strategic partnership, given that India already has strategic partnerships signed with the Gulf Cooperation Council including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Kuwait. They also signed a double taxation avoidance agreement and MoUs in areas including sports and youth affairs. They agreed to double bilateral trade by 2030, and Qatar is to invest $10 billion in India in infrastructure and manufacturing sectors and other areas.

While the joint statement and readouts dwelt on the bilateral bonhomie, the geopolitical undertones of their summit cannot be ignored. The Qatari Amir's visit comes amidst turmoil in the Gulf region over the Israel-Gaza conflict and U.S. President Donald Trump's outrageous plan to clear two million Palestinians from their homeland in the name of regional peace. Every country in the Gulf region has voiced its opposition to the Trump announcement, and New Delhi's relative silence has been noted. While the joint statement said that both sides conveyed their respective positions on the "Israel-Hamas issue", it did not detail those positions. As Arab, GCC and OIC members meet this week to discuss the challenge from developments in Gaza, the India-Qatar talks may have delivered the opportunity for both sides to bridge that divide between them, even as Delhi and Doha committed to a much stronger, forward-looking bilateral partnership.

## Russia reset

### Any solution to the Ukraine war will have to find acceptance in Europe

The talks between U.S. and Russian officials in Riyadh, their first major diplomatic interaction since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, marks the beginning of a reset in ties between the two former Cold War adversaries. Led by U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, the two sides agreed to restore staffing at their respective embassies, explore closer economic cooperation, and set up a high-level team to start talks to end the Ukraine war. U.S. President Donald Trump has signalled that he might meet his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, later this month and secure the deal, which is a decisive shift in America's policy towards Russia. Under the former Biden administration, the U.S. had emerged as Ukraine's biggest military and financial backer. The U.S. had also led global efforts to weaken Russia's economy through biting sanctions. Mr. Trump has thrown away the Biden policy and adopted a new approach of rapprochement with Russia, something reminiscent of Henry Kissinger's historic outreach to Mao Tse Tung's China at the height of the Cold War and America's disastrous war in Vietnam.

Mr. Trump's push for stability with Russia is rooted in a sense of realism. He does not see Russia, a pale shadow of what the Soviet Union used to be, as America's main challenger. It is unrealistic, as Pete Hegseth, U.S. Defence Secretary, put it, to expect Ukraine to turn around the war. Mr. Trump is also opposed to further American aid for Ukraine. He wants to focus America's resources on China, while building a better predictable relationship with Russia – a reverse Kissinger approach. While this is the broad strategic framework of Mr. Trump's Russia reset, the victim in the battlefield is Ukraine, which has already lost over 20% of its territories and thousands of its men. The U.S., which offered Ukraine NATO membership in 2008, now says such an outcome is not practical. The Trump administration has also ruled out security guarantees to Ukraine, passing that responsibility to Europe, which stands divided. So, Ukraine today does not even have a seat at the table when Russia and America talk. When great powers quarrel and reset, smaller countries that get caught in proxy conflicts often suffer. But excluding Ukraine and Europe from any settlement that would determine both Ukraine's future and Europe's security architecture would be wrong, morally and practically. If Mr. Trump wants to build his reset on a strong foundation, he should strive towards a settlement that is acceptable to all parties – the U.S., Russia, Europe and Ukraine.

# *Manipur is in need of 'greater common good' politics*

**Pradip Phanjoubam**

is Editor, Imphal Review of Arts and Politics, and the author of two books

On February 13, 2025, Article 356 of the Constitution was invoked in Manipur and the State came under President's Rule. It made way for the President of India to take charge of all administrative and legislative functions of the State from Manipur's Council of Ministers. The State Assembly, however, has not been dissolved but kept in 'animated suspension' instead, indicating that rather than having a fresh election to the Assembly after President's Rule, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its legislators are being given time to tide over their differences to resume power.

**There were other reasons**

For 20 long months of lawless anarchy in the State, ever since communal mayhem descended on it on May 3, 2023, the Union government did not consider this emergency step despite there being demands for it from many quarters. Why the move now? Obviously, the primary consideration is still not the anarchy but some other.

One of these is technical. Article 174 of the Constitution requires that the space between two State Assembly sessions is not more than six months – a deadline which expired on February 12. The deadline had closed in because the Assembly had skipped its winter session, and, therefore, the Budget session was planned to begin on February 10, two days ahead of this deadline. However, on the afternoon of February 9, the then Manipur Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh, resigned, a move that was probably compelled by the BJP's central leadership in order to avoid a possible split in the BJP legislative party as dissidence against Mr. Singh was becoming intense. The Opposition Congress party was poised to move a no-confidence motion against the government, and it was feared that dissenting ruling MLAs were ready to risk disqualification to support the motion if Mr. Singh remained as Chief Minister.

Just after accepting Mr. Singh's resignation, the Manipur Governor, Ajay Kumar Bhalla, for unexplained reasons, declared the Assembly session scheduled to begin the next day as "null and void". He had probably not been briefed about the February 12 deadline. He may have also thought that a new Chief Minister could take charge and the Assembly summoned again. However, a bitter struggle between the loyalists of Mr. Singh and dissidents on who should succeed Mr. Singh made this impossible.

The State, which was in a constitutional limbo by then, with only a caretaker government and a lapsed Assembly session deadline, had little other option than having President's Rule invoked. This was done on February 13, without dissolving the Assembly.

> The senseless communal hostilities must end and the State's politics must shed populism, becoming consensual instead

According to a Ministry of Home Affairs reply to an online Right To Information application in 2016, Manipur has had President's Rule 10 times. This will be its eleventh time, making it one of the most vulnerable States to have this extreme measure taken. This also reflects the fractured nature of its political landscape, but this is not surprising given its ethnic diversity.

Manipur has 33 recognised Scheduled Tribes, most falling into the Naga and Kuki (now Kuki-Zo) groupings. There are also the majority Meiteis (and Pangals or Meitei Muslims) who are considered non-tribals. In addition, there are several other non-tribal communities such as Nepalis, Punjabis, Tamils and Marwaris, who constitute a substantive percentage of the State's projected population of about three million. Unfortunately, they are virtually invisible and taken for granted.

**The politics of populism**

Adding to this complication is what has been termed as the politics of populism. A book, *Righteous Demagogues: Populist Politics in South Asia and Beyond* (2024), by Adnan A. Naseemullah and Pradeep K. Chhibber, provides many insights even into the problems unfolding on micro canvases such as Manipur. A brief sketch of their proposition will be helpful.

The authors start with the Google dictionary definition of political populism, which is "a political approach that strives to appeal to ordinary people who feel that their concerns are disregarded by established elite groups". What is interesting and relevant are the three broad categories of political populism that the authors profile.

The first is "Reordering" populism, and its representation is broad, not sectarian. Its appeal is the idea of restructuring the moral order, such as by championing, or else using, issues such as poverty uplift and farmer's rights to further political gains. Politicians who successfully push such agendas and emerge as leaders also tend to be majoritarian and autocratic.

The second is "Additive" populism, in which would fall campaigns for inclusion by those excluded. A political movement, for instance by Nepalis, for inclusion in the larger scheme of the Manipur political establishment would fit into this category. These seek realignment and not radical restructuring.

The third is what the authors call "Quotidian" populism. These popularist politicians seek to create their exclusive constituencies, and then to have the exclusivity of their constituencies preserved for their vested ends. They are partisan and their popularist political interest is to keep societies polarised.

Quite obviously, in the hotly contested political arena of Manipur, there are players of all these different brands of political populism. Those who follow the politics of Manipur in the wake of the State's nearly two-year-old ethnic strife between two of its major communities, the Meiteis and Kuki-Zos, would have also noticed this.

**A fight that grew**

This fight should have remained between the Government of Manipur, then headed by N. Biren Singh, and the Kuki-Zo tribes, considering the chief reasons for all the animus were Mr. Singh's drive against forest encroachers, poppy cultivation and illegal migration. These were pursued rather insensitively and with accusatory populist fanfare that would have been dehumanising and humiliating for those at the receiving end. Unfortunately, the politics of populism of Mr. Singh as well as those of his elite adversaries on the other side of the political fence, competitively built on waves of ethnic paranoia in their respective constituencies for their brands of politics to ride on, ensuring in the process that the hostilities were transformed into communal enmity.

The current spell of President's Rule is unlikely to last for long and a new BJP government could probably take charge sooner rather than later. But whether there is such a government in place or whether President's Rule continues, the challenges ahead are far from simple. On consideration of the irredenta reality, population movements across the international border must be allowed to continue, but not in an unaccounted manner like in the past. Similarly, the drive against poppy cultivation or forest encroachment must continue, but sensibly and sensitively.

Above all, the effort must be for an end to senseless communal hostilities. In the long run, politics must shed populism and be consensual instead, shaped by the principle that promoting the greater common good guarantees the enlightened self-interest of all. Manipur became a full-fledged State in 1972, but its political history has ample evidence of this character, and anybody from any community could emerge as Chief Minister based solely on calibre.

# *Manipur's worsening humanitarian crisis*

**Samrat Sinha**

is Professor, Jindal Global Law School (JGLS), Visiting Researcher, Peace Centre Nagaland and Research Adviser (Humanitarian Data) NEST Research Department-Manipur

The India-Myanmar borderlands remain a data-deficient region despite their long history of armed conflict, displacement, and humanitarian crises. The complexity of the Manipur conflict, along with restricted access and adverse security conditions, has led to huge gaps in documenting humanitarian needs. In Manipur, the lack of reliable data obscures the true scale of vulnerabilities and devastation. Misinformation and disinformation further cloud an empirical understanding of the conflict, making it crucial to highlight the serious implications of these information gaps for affected populations. Recent estimates indicate that approximately 58,000 individuals have been forcibly displaced and are living in hundreds of "relief camps" in the Valley and Hill districts. Forced displacement is dynamic, and data collection remains fragmented. In addition, nearly 12,000 people fled to Mizoram at the peak of the conflict, while approximately 7,000 people sought refuge in Nagaland, Assam and Meghalaya.

**A zone of 'the unknown'**

A critical issue since the onset of the conflict has been the breakdown in the chain of accurate humanitarian information due to the physical separation of the Meitei and Kuki-Zomi communities. Official estimates account only for those in registered relief camps, omitting unregistered individuals living with relatives, in temporary shelters, or displaced across multiple locations. Those who have left the State due to conflict-related circumstances are also unaccounted for. A significant but unrecognised category of affected individuals includes thousands of Manipuri youth who have left in search of better education and livelihood. Another overlooked group comprises those forced to seek medical care outside the State. The conflict has drastically altered health-care-seeking behaviour in Kuki-Zomi-dominated hill districts, with major tertiary health-care institutions in Imphal still inaccessible. Consequently, individuals must take circuitous routes through Mizoram (for those in Churachandpur, Chandel, and Tengnoupal) or Nagaland (for those in Kangpokpi).

> The complexity of the conflict has led to huge gaps in documenting humanitarian needs

**Medical problems**

Meanwhile, displaced populations in the Imphal Valley struggle with increasing out-of-pocket expenses for medical treatment, often leading to a discontinuation of care. Manipur's health-care system, already marked by disparities between the Valley and Hill districts, has deteriorated. The absence of systematic documentation results in underreported cases of mortality, malnutrition, and disease outbreaks. Threats to medical facilities and blockades on essential medicines also remain largely unrecorded. Mortality due to delayed medical access has become an issue, with average journey times for patients from Churachandpur between 17 hours and 24 hours. Some cases documented by a humanitarian data platform highlight the severity of the situation. On May 29, 2023, a 63-year-old displaced person died of cardio-respiratory failure and chronic kidney disease in Kangpokpi district due to a lack of dialysis facilities. In June 2023, a mother died from excessive bleeding after childbirth in a relief camp in Churachandpur district. At the same time, a one-month-old infant was rescued from a relief camp in Bishnupur district after being abandoned by her parents who were unable to care for her. On September 22, 2023, a one-year-old girl died from pneumonia in a relief camp in Churachandpur district.

A recent local media report has documented at least 13 deaths in relief camps in the Valley, including suicides. A study by doctors from the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) in displaced persons camps in Imphal East District found that 65.8% of respondents suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, while 24.8% experience moderate anxiety and 15.2% have severe anxiety. In Churachandpur district, an ongoing suicide study by a community research institution (NEST Suicide Survey) recorded at least three cases, including a 70-year-old displaced man, who struggled to adapt to camp life after losing his previous livelihood.

It has been more than two years since the first relief camps were formed, yet the basic humanitarian needs of food, water and shelter, remain largely unmet. Dwindling resources, donor fatigue, and conflict-induced inflation have worsened conditions for displaced populations on both sides of the ethnic divide. With over 22,000 children still living in camps, the situation is especially dire, severely impacting education. Unsanitary living conditions, daily water shortages, a lack of access to nutritious food, and the absence of income sources are compounding the crisis.

**Measures to take**

Although violence has decreased in terms of casualties and conflict incidents along inter-district boundaries, forced displacement remains a peripheral issue. The humanitarian crisis in relief camps persists, with a high risk of outcomes worsening as the situation extends into the third year. Mitigating measures are needed. The first is enhancing external cross-cutting humanitarian support by external agencies (including corporate social responsibility entities) to vulnerable populations. The second is augmenting the supplies of clean drinking water, which is a serious issue as a significant portion of household incomes is being used to get water from private sources. The third is creating "humanitarian corridors" that enable the emergency evacuation of serious patients from the hill districts through Imphal airport. The fourth is the restoration of supply chains for the transport of essential commodities, food items and medical supplies from the valley into the hill districts and vice-versa through neutral communities, thereby mitigating inflationary pressures locally.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Appointing the CEC**

Apart from ensuring that there are three column headlines in newspapers, what the Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi aims or achieves from his phrase, 'midnight call/appointment of CEC', is anybody's guess. That he has been reacting to every move by the BJP/Modi government ever since he appeared in politics is known to all.

Those who feel that the government going ahead with the process is a hasty move and that it could have waited for the top court's judgment in the ongoing litigations have reasonable solution in the Court's solid observation last week: that 'if there was any development in the interregnum, it would meet the consequences'. The Court is surely expected to answer 'whether the Act of 2023 goes against the 2022 verdict'.

I find little chance that the Court will insist on the Chief Justice of India's constant presence in the panel. That the issue is not very important can be deduced from the Court's line that it would now try to hear the case on March 19.

Fears about 'the majority' in the panel and the Opposition leader getting reduced to a 'figurehead' have some grounds in our politics. The only solution at present appears to be to legally insist on 'unanimous decisions' by the panel. The constitution of the panel can also be changed and strengthened so that it has, say six members — three from different ruling parties and three from different Opposition parties. With neither group claiming 'majority' and with more members within, the panel might be able to solve the present controversies.

**P.R.V. Raja,**
Pandalam, Kerala

**YouTuber, vulgarity**

The Supreme Court of India has rightly condemned the "filthy language" that a prominent YouTuber used recently, in what is a case that highlights the tension between free speech and responsible expression. Common decency dictates boundaries, regardless of the legal definitions of obscenity. The Court's advice to him, to "stop this show business for the time being", sends a clear message to all. It is time to have a serious conversation about online ethics.

**Muskan R.,**
Hospet, Karnataka

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name.

# President's Rule and the road ahead

The central intervention in Manipur is a crucial but insufficient step to restore normalcy, trust, and the State's infrastructural power

**Kham Khan Suan Hausing**

Professor and former Head, Department of Political Science, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. He is also a Senior Fellow, Centre for Multilevel Federalism, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi. Views expressed are personal

The Narendra Modi-led BJP government at the Centre has finally done the inevitable by imposing President's Rule in Manipur on February 13, after dragging its feet for over 21 months, and four days after N. Biren Singh resigned as Chief Minister. The change in political gear stems not from the BJP's first-order-of-preference, but as an escape route to avoid an imminent fall of its government and an impending constitutional crisis in the State. However, this crisis, along with the belated imposition of President's Rule, presents both challenges and opportunities for the BJP-led central government and for various stakeholders in Manipur's violence to restore normalcy and establish trust and legitimacy in the Indian State and its institutions.

The BJP's last resort to President's Rule to avert a constitutional crisis has busted the myth around BJP's electoral USP of a double-engine *sarkar,* which has been projected as the hallmark of efficiency, stability, and strength. The most formidable challenge is therefore to creatively use President's Rule as an opportunity to reverse this and establish what Michael Mann, the eminent political sociologist calls the 'infrastructural power' of the State. This is premised on the assumption that the biggest casualty in over 21 months of violence has been the erosion of trust and legitimacy of the State and its institutions.

**Vigilant watch:** Security personnel keep vigil after security measures were increased following the imposition of President's Rule in Manipur, in Imphal, on February 14. PTI

### Crucial, but not enough

Extensive reports show how the complicity and partisan role of the State government and its police forces during this violence have not only ruptured shared territorial space but have also drastically eroded citizens' trust in the State government. Under Mr. Singh's populist leadership, the State government is seen to have capitulated to the Meitei ultranationalist and majoritarian agenda. This point is brought into sharp relief by a recent forensic report by Truth Labs submitted to the Supreme Court, which confirms a 93% similarity between the YouTube voice samples and the alleged audio of Mr. Singh in a leaked tape, where he allegedly made self-incriminating claims about his role in starting and perpetuating the violence.

Seen against this context, the imposition of President's Rule must be seen as a necessary but not sufficient step towards establishing the State's 'infrastructural power' to restore normalcy and constitutional order in Manipur. If the capacity of the State to autonomously regulate State-society relations is the hallmark of this power, then it must not recapitulate to powerful ultranationalist and majoritarian agendas of social forces and populist leaders. These leaders harvest the insecurity complex of the gullible public to falsely project themselves as messiahs who will restore an elusive, glorious indigenous past to secure the survival of the community and the State from the unwanted 'others'.

It is worth underscoring how Friedrich Ratzel's idea of lebensraum was weaponised during Nazi rule in Germany in the 1930s when the unwanted Jews 'others,' were violently targeted to protect the purity of the German Aryan race and the Third Reich. That this has unusual resonance with the militant ultranationalist and populist drive to restore Manipur's indigenous past should shudder us and affirm our resolve not to feed these politics anymore.

This is not to suggest the permanent inseparability between reviving one's glorious past and violent targeting of the 'unwanted' others to secure one's survival. The 'ideological apparatus' of the State can play a crucial role in detoxifying militant ideas and reorienting our political culture and political socialisation in ways that promote our connected and shared past. The present and future pathways of communities and the State must be built on the principles of justice, mutual trust, respect, and recognition of each other's distinctiveness. Along with this, it is imperative that the State must be seen to uphold the rule of law and the constitutional order to secure not only equality of all citizens before the law but also equal protection of the law.

### 'Building legitimacy'

Outsourcing law and order to vigilante and armed groups, using them as proxies to further ultranationalist and majoritarian agendas, randomised stereotyping, and selectively targeting a community, among others, must be stopped. They must be firmly dealt with, in accordance with relevant provisions of the law without fear or favour.

Only when the State rises above partisan interests and insulates itself from powerful forces can it effectively regulate State-society relations in Manipur, to promote trust and legitimacy of the State and institutions. As M. Sajjad Hassan, a former bureaucrat-turned-academic-activist with extensive field experience in Manipur and Mizoram, has reminded us, identity crisis and its attendant violent conflicts stems primarily from a 'legitimacy crisis' of the State and not the other way round. For Mr. Hassan, 'building legitimacy' of State institutions is the most critical challenge in deeply divided places if social order, peace, and stability were to be preserved.

Once the infrastructural power of the State is established, concerted attempts must be made to demobilise and disarm armed groups across the divide. Accountability must be fixed expeditiously for the atrocious crimes committed during this violence to deliver justice.

Establishing normalcy and durable peace in Manipur, which has witnessed protracted armed insurgency, requires a negotiated political solution and not merely a law-and-order approach.

Declaring Manipur as a 'hill State' is one such solution offered by certain quarters to neutralise a separate administration demand by the Kuki-Zomi-Hmar groups. Although a plausible proposition, its implications on extant sub-State constitutional asymmetry under Article 371 C must be carefully assessed. Behind this prescription lies a political project to arraign the hills-valley institutional binary, and a refusal to acknowledge the systemic manipulation and persistent refusal to devolve meaningful autonomy to the tribal people, as a source of structural violence.

Flattening and homogenising institutional arrangements in ways that dissolve the extant sub-State constitutional asymmetry and the protective discrimination enjoyed by the tribal groups on matters pertaining to representation, jobs, and land rights is the surest means to perpetuate an oppressive and assimilationist structure. Couched in the language of civilisational unity, this may cohere with and be particularly appealing to the BJP's nationalist agenda. However, it is grossly insensitive to the distinct and autonomous societal cultures of the valley and hill tribal communities.

Any attempt to use President's Rule as a ruse to centralise powers and dissolve extant sub-State constitutional asymmetry as a facade to perpetuate the oppressive rule of the dominant community is unlikely to secure Manipur's 'territorial integrity'. On the contrary, it may further bolster and legitimise the Kuki-Zomi-Hmar groups' demand for a separate administration.

### Balancing power fairly

Given the longstanding historical foundations of distinctive sub-State constitutional asymmetry and protective discrimination, securing durable peace in Manipur impels an affirmation, not dissolution, of the existing institutional regime. Disrupting the already lopsided power balance between the hill tribal and valley communities in favour of the latter is only a recipe for disaster, as it will normalise structural oppression and injustice against the former.

Focus Manipur

The current spell of President's Rule must leverage a sincere and objective audit of institutions in the State to decentralise, rather than centralise power. Rectifying the existing gaps in representation, and effective redistribution of goods and services to all communities must be the corollary. The opacity and inadequacy in how institutions represent, redistribute, and give voice to diverse communities have spawned a vicious cycle of mistrust, democracy deficits, and violence in Manipur. The challenge is to recalibrate existing institutions in ways that strengthen sub-State constitutional asymmetry to effectively cater to the legitimate needs and demands for distinctive recognition, representation, and redistribution within and between groups.

Any misguided attempt to pander to the majoritarian whims and fancies which perpetuate oppressive rule and threaten to disrupt and endanger our constitutional foundations and values must be avoided, and resisted, at all costs.

# Myanmar, Manipur, and strained borders

Political instability in Myanmar and the resulting refugee influx are straining Northeast India's security, economy, and border management, necessitating a response to maintain stability and economic engagement

**Sanjay Pulipaka**

Chairperson of the Politeia Research Foundation. Views expressed are personal

Northeast India has experienced prolonged spells of insurgency. However, over the past few decades, large parts of the region have remained free of insurgencies. This relative peace has allowed for the operationalisation of massive infrastructure projects. But, as the violence in Manipur attests, the gains made are experiencing increasing stress because of the political developments in Myanmar.

The military coup in Myanmar in February 2021 has encountered widespread disapproval from the people of that country. The civil disobedience movement against military rule subsequently evolved into armed resistance by the People's Defence Forces (PDFs). The coordinated attacks by the PDFs and the Ethnic Armed Organisations (EAOs) pushed the Myanmar military (Tatmadaw) to cede control over large parts of the country. In a futile attempt to regain territory, the Tatmadaw resorted to indiscriminate use of force. There were instances when civilian areas were subjected to aerial and artillery bombardment by the Tatmadaw. The Sagaing Region, Chin and Kachin States – bordering Northeast India – often witnessed heavy fighting between resistance forces and the Tatmadaw.

The influx of Myanmar refugees has generated diverse responses in India's Northeastern States. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

### Movement of refugees

In Northeast India, there are many ethnic groups, such as the Mizo-Chin-Kuki, that inhabit both sides of the India-Myanmar border and share strong community and familial ties. Recognising these ethnic interactions, the governments of both countries instituted a Free Movement Regime (FMR) after Independence, for people living within 40 kilometre on either side of the India-Burma border, which was subsequently reduced to 16 km. The FMR allowed people in the designated areas to move across the border without being subjected to cumbersome paperwork such as visas. Additionally, a wide range of economic activities, such as Border *haats* were established to encourage local cross-border trade and promote livelihoods.

However, these attempts to convert border zones into launch pads of economic engagement received a setback after the recent violent conflict in Myanmar, which resulted in a large-scale refugee movement into India. The movement of refugees has negatively impacted India's border management strategies.

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimates, as of December 31, 2024, approximately 95,600 refugees from Myanmar had moved into India. Of these, about 73,400 refugees reportedly reached India after the recent military coup. However, given the porous border, it is difficult to accurately estimate the number of Myanmar refugees in India. The influx of Myanmar refugees has generated diverse responses in India's Northeastern States. In Mizoram, various civil society organisations and the State government have shown considerable empathy for the refugees due to their shared ethnic identity.

On the other hand, in Manipur, there are concerns that the influx of refugees is disturbing the fragile ethnic balance and has become an important variable in the Meitei-Kuki conflict. Responding to such concerns, last year, the Union Home Minister announced that the FMR would be abolished to maintain internal security and "to maintain the demographic structure of India's Northeastern States bordering Myanmar." However, it is not certain if India's Ministry of External Affairs has formally communicated to its Myanmar counterpart about the withdrawal from the Agreement on the Land Border Crossing. Meanwhile, in December 2024, a new framework was operationalised, which would allow people living within 10 km of the border, including in Manipur, to cross the India-Myanmar border with a permit at designated entry/exit points.

Rather than expanding the FMR to facilitate greater economic engagement between India's Northeast and Myanmar, it is being increasingly constricted. Moreh in Manipur, once a bustling border trade town, has borne the brunt of recent violent developments. The decline in the border trade meant that Moreh's emergence as India's gateway to Southeast Asia may not materialise anytime soon. Plans to improve the India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway have also taken a back seat.

Along with India, China is also experiencing negative spillovers due to political instability in Myanmar. To prevent the unauthorised movement of people, China has fenced a few critical sections of its border with Myanmar. Beijing has strong relations with some EAOs in Myanmar and deployed them to tackle the criminal/drug syndicates operating from there. China deploys considerable economic resources and is a member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), which gives it greater space to engage with diverse actors in Myanmar with relative ease.

Unlike China, India is not a member of the UNSC and must operate within the liberal democratic framework. Yet, India must craft a more calibrated and comprehensive response to developments in Myanmar lest Manipur will continue to fester.

### Urgent requirements

To ensure peace in the region, the consolidation of unhealthy relationships between Indian insurgent groups and armed groups across the border needs to be arrested. Therefore, it becomes imperative to engage various ethnic organisations in Myanmar. There is also an urgent need to provide increased humanitarian relief and, in the long run, develop health care and educational infrastructure in Myanmar near the border with Manipur and Mizoram in India. These measures would ensure that the population seeking basic needs does not have to make strenuous efforts to enter India. Further, India, in collaboration with select neighbours of Myanmar, must nudge all the stakeholders in that country to move towards a more federal democratic polity.

Focus Manipur

With political uncertainty in Bangladesh and the civil war in Myanmar, the prospect of Northeast India's enhanced external economic engagement is dim at the moment. Therefore, the Indian government will have to spend more resources to maintain economic growth in the region. Despite the current security situation along the borders, including in Manipur, the long-term objective of border management practices in Northeast India should be to increase economic interactions with Southeast Asian countries. The policy framework should be geared to achieve such an objective at the first available opportunity.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu

**FIFTY YEARS AGO**
FEBRUARY 20, 1975

### Uncleared cheques pile up in Bombay

Bombay, Feb.19: The Clearing House work has remained suspended along with all other normal banking and financial functions of the Reserve Bank Headquarters and its allied offices in Bombay, as a "no dusting of furniture" agitation, launched by the subordinate staff, snowballed into a "no-dusting-no-work" resolve by the clerical staff, supervisors and officers. The latter are already on "work-to-rule" for the past two weeks demanding increased dearness allowance.

Hardly any work is done by the staff and no files are moving. No public counters at the RBI are open, and no currency is issued to the public nor cash to the banking sector.

The complete stoppage of clearance of Bombay cheques, affecting also upcountry cheques as they come, coupled with non-issue of cash by the RBI, has disrupted the working of the banking sector, according to financial circles.

**A HUNDRED YEARS AGO**
FEBRUARY 20, 1925

### Indian Military College.

New Delhi, Feb. 19: In the Assembly to-day, a full dress debate took place on what all sides of the House was regarded as a matter of vital importance to India. It was raised by Mr. Venkatapathi Raju who urged that necessary funds be set apart for the establishment of a Military College in India.

## From Page One

# Rekha Gupta, first-time MLA, to be Delhi CM

"I pledge that I will work with full honesty, integrity and dedication for the welfare, empowerment and overall development of every citizen of Delhi. I am fully committed to this important opportunity to take Delhi to new heights," Ms. Gupta said.

Three MLAs supported her claim to become the leader of the legislature party. The meeting was attended by all 48 MLAs-elect as well as Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva.

Ms. Gupta is an active member of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, and has completed three terms as a councillor in the municipal corporation of Delhi. She started her political journey with the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, the RSS student wing, and was president of the Delhi University Students Association in 1996. She will be the fourth woman Chief Minister of Delhi, following the BJP's Sushma Swaraj, the Congress's Sheila Dikshit, and the AAP's Atishi.

In this month's Assembly election, Ms. Gupta defeated three-time AAP MLA Bandana Kumari by a margin of 29,595 votes.

# U.S. SEC set to 'serve complaint' on Adanis

**Lalatendu Mishra**
MUMBAI

Despite U.S. President Donald Trump's executive order to hit the pause button on the foreign anti-bribery law – a move viewed as a big relief for Indian billionaire and top industrialist Gautam Adani – the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has now written to Indian authorities to serve a complaint on the Adani Group founder and his nephew Sagar Adani for their alleged involvement in securities fraud and a $265 million bribery scheme, according to a court filing.

The SEC told a New York district court on Tuesday that it was taking steps to serve its complaint to both the Adanis, defendants in the case, and that it has sought the help of India's Union Ministry of Law and Justice in this regard.

"Defendants are located in India and the SEC's efforts to serve them there are ongoing, including a request for assistance to Indian authorities to effect service under the Hague Service Convention for Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial documents in Civil and Commercial matters," the SEC filing said.

In November 2024, the SEC had filed a complaint alleging that the defendants violated the anti-fraud provisions of the federal securities law "by knowingly or recklessly making false and misleading representations concerning Adani Green Energy Ltd in connection with a September 2021 debt offering by Adani Green". In a related criminal case arising from the same alleged facts, the United States Attorney of the Eastern District of New York has charged the defendants with, among other things, conspiracy and securities fraud, the SEC filing said.

Because the defendants are located in a foreign country, outside the United States, there is no time limit to serve the summons and complaints as per Rule 4(f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the SEC said.

The U.S. regulator said it has requested assistance from India's law and justice department, and the process is ongoing. "SEC will continue its efforts to serve Defendants," it reiterated.

Earlier this month, Mr. Trump signed an executive order pausing the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 for a period of at least 180 days, until the new U.S. Attorney General completes a review of the legislation.

Given the SEC's fresh filing with the court, it now appears that the executive order did not have retrospective effect. Thus, the SEC probe into the Adanis seems likely to continue unless and until the law is amended.

People familiar with the development said that the Indian authorities will take their time to act or even ask for concrete proof from the SEC before serving the U.S. regulator's complaints to the Adanis, and this is likely to be a long drawn out process.

**'WILL CENTRE RESPOND?'**
» PAGE 9

# Bombay blasts convict Abu Salem seeks remission

**The Hindu Bureau**
MUMBAI

Underworld gangster Abu Salem, convicted in the 1993 Bombay serial blasts case, has moved the Bombay High Court seeking remission of his sentence and premature release from the Nashik Road Central Prison.

Advocate Farhana Shah representing Abu Salem, 49, mentioned the matter before a Division Bench of Justices Sarang Kotwal and S.M. Modak on Wednesday, and said the Bench had agreed to hear the matter on March 10.

The petitioner said he had already undergone the punishment of 25 years in prison as per procedure of the extradition treaty between India and Portugal and hence should be granted remission.

The petition mentioned the Supreme Court's July 11, 2022 order, which is in line with India's extradition treaty and the sovereign assurance given to Portugal government that capped his imprisonment at 25 years.

The petition follows a previous rejection of Salem's release by a special TADA court in Mumbai on December 10, 2024.

# Sangam water is fit for drinking, says U.P. CM

Yogi dismisses concerns over presence of faecal bacteria in Maha Kumbh site; he says water is released there after purification; a CPCB report had flagged high levels of coliform in the water

**Mayank Kumar**
LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday dismissed concerns over the presence of faecal bacteria in the river water in Prayagraj where people took holy dip during the ongoing Maha Kumbh.

Speaking in the Assembly, he said the water at the Sangam Nose, the point where the Ganga meets the Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati, is fit for drinking.

"Issues have been raised about the quality of the water there (Sangam, Maha Kumbh). Water there is released after purification. Pipes and drains in and around Sangam are taped. The State Pollution Control Board is regularly checking the water to maintain its quality. As per today's reports, the amount of BOD (biochemical oxygen demand) near Sangam is less than three, and the dissolved oxygen is around 8-9. It signifies that that the Sangam is water is suitable not just for bathing but also for *aachman* [a holy dip in which devotees also sip the water]," Mr. Adityanath said.

**On the defensive:** Yogi Adityanath speaking during Budget 2025-26 session in the Assembly in Lucknow on Wednesday. ANI

**CPCB report**

Earlier, a Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report had revealed that coliform levels at many places in Sangam far exceeded the permissible water quality limits for bathing.

Describing the Opposition's claim of severe contamination as misleading, the Chief Minister alleged that it was a false campaign meant to defame the Maha Kumbh. "Today you people have crossed that limit and have left no stone unturned to defame the Maha Kumbh event. I condemned your attempt to spread misinformation against Sanatana Dharma, Maa Ganga, and India. You people are politicising the Maha Kumbh. The arrival of 560 million people is our satisfaction, it is a satisfaction for India, it is a satisfaction for the world. There is a limit to misinformation," he said.

Hitting out at the Opposition, Mr. Adityanath accused the Samajwadi Party (SP) of neglecting the Maha Kumbh held during its regime in 2013. Citing the 2014 Comptroller and Auditor-General (CAG) report, he said the Centre spent ₹1,141 crore for the event while the SP government in U.P. spent only ₹10 crore. "It shows your mindset," he said.

Expressing condolences over the Maha Kumbh stampede that took place on January 29, he said: "Whosoever is guilty of the Prayagraj stampede will not be spared. Our sympathies are with all those who were victims of the stampede."

**Mismanaged, says SP**

The SP leaders, in their rebuttal, said the government had made Maha Kumbh a "festival of mismanagement". "In the name of faith, the Maha Kumbh is transformed into a festival of mismanagement. Every day, we are seeing videos of the discomfort faced by devotees," said senior SP MLA Shivpal Singh Yadav.

# NGT pulls up UPPCB over report without 'adequate' info

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Wednesday pulled up the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) for not submitting adequate information to the court, including faecal coliform levels in river water in Prayagraj during Maha Kumbh.

As per a Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report, the levels of faecal coliform were high in the river water during Maha Kumbh.

On Wednesday, when the NGT Bench asked whether the U.P. government was challenging the findings of the CPCB, Additional Advocate-General Garima Prashad representing Uttar Pradesh government, said that they were not challenging the report, but were just asking for the sampling points of the CPCB.

The NGT noted that the UPPCB's report submitted to the court was about water samples collected till January 12, before the beginning of the Maha Kumbh.

On Thursday, it pulled up the UPPCB asking what sort of report they have filed with no information on faecal coliform.

# India has a lot of money, why give it $21 mn, asks Trump

**Press Trust of India**
NEW YORK/FLORIDA

U.S. President Donald Trump has wondered why $21 million was being given to India for "voter turnout", reiterating that the U.S. "can hardly get in there" because of high Indian tariffs.

"India is one of the highest taxing countries in the world," he said while signing executive orders at Mar-a-Lago on Tuesday.

Donald Trump

**DOGE move**

The Elon Musk-led Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) had disclosed that USAID contributed $21 million to the Election Commission for boosting voter turnout.

Mr. Trump said, "...And $21 million for voter turnout in India. Why are we giving $21 million to India? They got a lot of money there. One of the highest taxing countries in the world in terms of us. We can hardly get in there because their tariffs are so high." Mr. Trump said he had a "lot of respect for India. I have a lot of respect for the Prime Minister". Prime Minister Narendra Modi had visited the White House last week.

"But we're giving $21 million for voter turnout. It's voter turnout in India. What about like voter turnout here," he said.

Hours before Prime Minister Modi had a bilateral meeting with Mr. Trump in the White House on February 13, the U.S. President had announced reciprocal tariffs.

# Four women Maoists killed in encounter with police in Madhya Pradesh's Balaghat

**Mehul Malpani**
BHOPAL

Four women Maoist were gunned down by the Madhya Pradesh Police during an encounter in Balaghat district on Wednesday, officials said.

They said a search was on to find the cadre who were injured.

Based on an input about the movement of Maoists, the anti-Naxal Hawk Force unit of the State police and local police teams launched a joint operation near the Rhonda Forest Camp in Supkhar Forest Range, close to the Chhattisgarh border, early on Wednesday morning

While three bodies were recovered in the early hours, one body was found during a search operation in the evening, Shiyaz K.M., Additional Superintendent of Police, Hawk Force, Balaghat, told *The Hindu*.

Mr. Shiyaz said that while the four deceased operatives were yet to be identified, "they are likely from Chhattisgarh".

A file picture of Madhya Pradesh police personnel at a counter-terrorism training. PTI

There were inputs of some Maoist movement from Chhattisgarh for a few days and teams had been constantly searching for them, he said.

Vijay Dabar, Additional SP, Balaghat, said that an INSAS rifle, a self-loading rifle, and another gun were recovered from their possession.

"Some Naxalites were also injured in the encounter and escaped in the dense forest. An extensive search operation is under way by 12 teams of Hawk Force, CRPF's CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action) and local police," said Mr. Dabar, adding that a total of four "hardcore Naxalites" have been killed.

Located in the southeastern part of the State, Balaghat is a left-wing extremism-affected district and shares its boundaries with Kabirdham and Rajnandgaon districts of Chhattisgarh and Gondiya and Bhandara of Maharashtra.

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav congratulated the State police, and said the operation was part of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's campaign to end Naxalism in the country by 2026. "This is a big part of our policy that there will be no place for Naxalites and terrorists in Madhya Pradesh," he said.

# Top court takes note of Lokpal order on HC judge

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

A Special Bench of the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Thursday a *suo motu* case concerning an order of the anti-corruption ombudsman, Lokpal, that it has jurisdiction over High Court judges.

The Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai, Surya Kant and A.S. Oka would weigh the January 27 order of the Lokpal that High Court judges were 'public servants' and, thus, came within the ambit of the Lokpal Act.

"It will be too naive to argue that a judge of a High Court will not come within the ambit of expression "any person" in clause (f) of Section 14(1) of the Act of 2013," it observed.

The Lokpal was deciding a complaint that a High Court judge had influenced an Additional District Judge and another High Court judge to favour a private company in a case.

# Facing threats, ex-BJYM chief in Manipur gets security

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Days after he said he was getting death threats over a viral video of his criticising former Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, former State president of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha M. Barish Sharma on Wednesday said that he had been provided State police protection but sought central forces on his security detail.

In a letter to Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla, he said the six members in the protection detail were all Meitei and in many cases State police personnel "remain passive" due to "community affiliations".

# SC puts off hearing on CEC appointment law

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

The much-anticipated hearing in the Supreme Court of petitions challenging a law that gives the government a dominant role in the appointments of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs) did not materialise on Wednesday.

A Bench headed by Justice Surya Kant was caught up in other cases while Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, sought an adjournment on the ground that he was appearing in another courtroom before a Constitution Bench.

Repeated oral mentionings by petitioners failed to make much difference as the Bench indicated it may push the case to March 19, a month from now.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for the petitioner NGO Association for Democratic Reforms, urged the court for an early hearing, saying the case was of seminal importance and would not take much time. He said the petitioners would use up only an hour of the court's time. The Bench had assured petitioners on Tuesday that the case would be given priority on Wednesday.

Responding to Mr. Mehta's request for an adjournment, Mr. Bhushan said a case as important as this one ought not to be adjourned solely due to the unavailability of the Solicitor-General.

# Kharge tells Congress office-bearers they will be held accountable for future poll results

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

After a series of setbacks in recent Assembly elections, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday laid stress on strengthening the organisation, and said that party office-bearers would be held "accountable" for future election results in States under their charge.

Addressing All India Congress Committee general secretaries and States in-charge, including those appointed last week, at a meeting at Indira Bhavan, the party headquarters, Mr. Kharge stressed the need to promote those who "dedicated" themselves to the party's ideology and asked his colleagues to be "wary of ideologically weak turncoats". Using a Hindi proverb, he advised the office-bearers to be wary of choosing "imitations over original".

Referring to the recent organisational reshuffle, Mr. Kharge signalled that a few more changes are in the offing.

The thrust of the meeting was on strengthening the organisational structure through capacity-building, empowering the district-level units, and promoting fresh leadership at the local level. Mr. Kharge asked the general secretaries and booths in-charge to start work from the booth-level and engage with frontal organisations.

Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi arrive for the meeting. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The Congress chief urged his colleagues to continuously raise and fight for people's issues for the next five years so that the party emerges as the main Opposition and the "first choice" of the public.

"I want to talk to you about the most important thing of accountability. You all will be held accountable for revamping the organisations in States and for all future election results," Mr. Kharge told the office-bearers.

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi, general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal, Wayanad MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, general secretary (communication) Jairam Ramesh, and all general secretaries and States in-charge were among those who attended the seven-hour review meeting.

Mr. Gandhi is learnt to have encouraged his colleagues to evolve a strategy that would focus on self-management at all levels of the party organisation.

"Last December, at Belgavi, we had said that 2025 will be the year of the organisation... There were lots of suggestion on empowering the 800-odd district level units," Mr. Ramesh told reporters after the meeting.

**Key issues**

The key issues that figured in the meeting included a discussion on the contours of the *Samvidhan Bachao Yatra* that will be taken out as a relay march in different States, an AICC session in Gujarat in April, strengthening of the District Congress Committees, and the functioning of the Election Commission with regard to the party's demand for more information on voters' list.

## EC will always be with voters, says CEC after taking charge

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Gyanesh Kumar assumed office as the 26th Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India on Wednesday.

"First step for nation building is voting. Therefore, every citizen of India who has completed 18 years of age should become an elector and should always vote," he said after taking charge.

"Election Commission was, is and will always be with the voters," he added.

His term as CEC will end in January 2029.

Vivek Joshi, a former Haryana-cadre IAS officer, also assumed office as an Election Commissioner on Wednesday. The three-member Election Commission now comprises Mr. Kumar, Mr. Joshi and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu.

# Rekha Gupta, a grassroots leader who has served in key organisational roles

Shalimar Bagh MLA-elect defeated AAP's Bandana Kumari by 29,595 votes in the Delhi election; she says her selection as CM is a matter of pride for every woman in the country and BJP will fulfil all commitments made by it to people of Delhi

**Satvika Mahajan**
**Ashna Butani**
NEW DELHI

With a 30-year career in politics, Rekha Gupta, MLA-elect for Shalimar Bagh, is set to take over as the next Chief Minister of Delhi on Thursday.

A grassroots leader with an RSS-ABVP background, she began her political journey as a B.Com. student in Daulat Ram College of Delhi University. She joined the Akhil Bhartiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) in 1992.

She was announced as the BJP pick after 48 MLAs from the party unanimously elected her the leader of Delhi BJP Legislature Party. Accepting the role, Ms. Gupta said: "It is a matter of pride for every woman in the country. We will fulfil all commitments made by the BJP in Delhi. It will be my life's purpose."

**Change of guard:** Delhi CM-designate Rekha Gupta with Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Wednesday. ANI

Defeating Bandana Kumari, a three-time MLA from Shalimar Bagh and a former Deputy Speaker from the Aam Aadmi Party's short stint in 2013, by a margin of 29,595 votes, the 50-year-old has been a three-time councillor from Shalimar Bagh.

She joined the BJP in the 2000s, serving in key organisational roles, including as Delhi BJP general secretary, president of the BJP's Mahila Morcha, and national vice-president of the Uttar Pradesh Mahila Morcha. She was an office-bearer of the BJP's Yuva Morcha wing.

However, her journey in politics has not been without losses – the Chief Minister-designate contested from Shalimar Bagh in the 2015 and 2020 Assembly polls unsuccessfully.

**'Message to AAP'**

Born in Julana, Haryana, the BJP's pick has been a clear message to the AAP. A party insider said, "The previous Chief Minister was referred to as a 'temporary CM', and now the BJP has come with a strong face to counter that."

In 1995, she became the secretary of the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) from the ABVP, and she went on to become the DUSU president the following year.

Referring to her as a fighter, several BJP leaders who served with Ms. Gupta as councillors said she would fight for women's rights. She raised the need for toilets for women. Working on basic facilities such as parks and libraries for the people of her area, Ms. Gupta is a leader who has emerged from the ground, and her quiet determination has led her to become the Chief Minister of the capital.

During her campaign in the lead up to the 2025 Assembly polls, Ms. Gupta had promised to make a 'Viksit Delhi' that a 'Viksit Bharat' deserves as its capital.

## Will govt. respond to U.S. request in Adani matter, asks Congress

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Wednesday asked whether the Narendra Modi government would respond to the U.S. Securities and Exchanges Commission's request in the ongoing probe against the Adani Group since the Prime Minister had already declared the Adani issue to be a "personal matter".

The comment came after the SEC told a federal judge in New York that its efforts to serve its complaint on industrialist Gautam Adani and Sagar Adani in the alleged bribery scheme are "ongoing" and that it has sent a request for assistance to the Indian authorities.

"The Prime Minister has already declared the Modani issue to be a personal matter. Will he oblige the SEC," asked Congress leader Jairam Ramesh.

In a separate post on X, Mr. Ramesh said the talk of reciprocal tariffs by U.S. President Donald Trump was calling into question a consumption tax such as GST. He wondered whether his "good friend in New Delhi" would stand up to it when national sovereignty was at stake.

**Call for GST 2.0**

"The Congress has long been calling for a GST 2.0 that will make GST a truly Good and Simple Tax, as it was intended to be. It has called for the barest minimum of rates and vastly reformed compliance rules," Mr. Ramesh said.

"Now President Trump is threatening the very existence of GST. Now all this talk of reciprocal tariffs by the U.S. President is calling into question a consumption tax like GST," he said.

# 'Double-engine government has produced double disasters for Bihar'

Stating that the NDA's confidence ahead of the Bihar Assembly polls is misplaced, the CPI(ML) general secretary says the ruling coalition had only marginally scraped through in the 2020 polls, with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar failing to deliver on his promises this time round; he further says his party only needs to 'forge a organic unity of the ongoing struggles in the State' to put up a good fight

INTERVIEW

***Dipankar Bhattacharya***

**Sobhana K. Nair**

With the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) gearing up for its first public meeting ahead of the Bihar Assembly election, the party's general secretary, Dipankar Bhattacharya, speaks on the political situation in the State. Excerpts:

**With the recent Budget announcements and the plank of "double engine", the NDA is exuding confidence about the Bihar election. How is Mahagathbandhan (grand alliance) placed?**

I think the NDA's confidence is quite misplaced. If you look at the 2020 Assembly election, the NDA only marginally scraped through. In Delhi, a highly popular Aam Aadmi Party government which governed on core issues like electricity, water, health and education lost the election after being in power for more than a decade. In Bihar, we have a non-performing government in power for 20 years now, which is essentially a NDA government, barring two brief interludes when [CM] Nitish Kumar joined hands with [RJD leader] Lalu Prasad. When you look at Bihar's balance sheet, it is clear that the government has failed to deliver on its promises. As for the double engine, it has only produced double disasters.

**You had talked about the 2024 election. The RJD had the worst strike rate in the grand alliance. They contested 23 seats winning only four. Is the RJD going to be a liability for you?**

I would rather we analyse region-wise performance of our coalition. In south Bihar, we did well in the 2020 Assembly and 2024 general elections. Our performance was not good in north Bihar. The RJD is not strong here with a division in its core vote bank. The alliance, all of us separately and together as a coalition, will have to pay more attention to north Bihar.

**The CPI(ML) is organising a rally on March 2, probably your first big event opening the campaign. What will be your message for the State?**

We are uniting under the slogan –"*Badlo Bihar, Maha-Jutaan*" (Transform Bihar, Grand Assembly). It is a grand confluence of struggles that are already under way. We don't have to invent anything, we only have to forge organic unity of these ongoing struggles and guard against the BJP creating an artificial agenda, like it tried to do in Jharkhand, talking about "infiltration".

**You were given 19 seats, you won 12 of them in 2020. You had a better strike rate than other allies. Do you have clarity on what will be the non- negotiable minimum number of seats that you expect.**

Seat-sharing talks haven't begun. It is not just our assessment, but a common understanding that if CPI (ML) had got a bigger share to contest, the final results would have been different in 2020. The same was true for 2024, we got three seats and won two. We hope that a realistic seat sharing that corresponds to the ground realities is arrived at.

**Knives are out for the Congress after defeats in three Assembly elections. How crucial is the the Congress's presence in the alliance in Bihar?**

If the BJP is to be ousted, it is not possible with a weak Congress. A stronger and energised Congress is in the interest not just of the Congress party but of all who want political change in India.

## Modi to visit poll-bound Bihar on February 24

**Amarnath Tewary**
PATNA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address a meeting at Bhagalpur in poll-bound Bihar on February 24 and release financial assistance to farmers.

He is likely to unveil development projects estimated at over ₹2,000 crore.

The Assembly election is slated to be held in the State in October-November. The Prime Minister's visit would "certainly kick-start the poll campaign for the party in Bihar," said a senior State BJP leader, preferring anonymity.

**Income support scheme**

Farmers from several neighbouring districts are likely to participate in the meeting when Mr. Modi will release the 19th instalment of the Kisan Samman Nidhi, an income support scheme for landholding farmers. Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar and a host of senior State BJP leaders will accompany Mr. Modi.

The BJP-led NDA has set a target of winning over 200 seats in the 243-member Assembly.

"The Prime Minister will also unveil several development projects worth more than ₹2,000 crore for the region. In the Union Budget, 2025-26, significant resources have been allocated for Bihar's development," said Minister and BJP leader Nitin Nabin.

**Municipal Corporation Alwar (Raj.)**
Sr.No./MCA/NIRMAN /EOI/2024/ 4126-29 Dt. 18.02.2025
**Nit No./53/2024-25 E-Procument Notice Inviting Bid**
Bid for civil work of" EOI DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF AMUSEMENT PARK at subcity center Alwar,Alwar on Design,Build,Finance, AND TRANSFER (DBFOT) PPP Mode"at Municipal Corporation Alwar invited for interested bidders up to 06.03.2025 Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal(http://sppp.raj.nic.in & www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state. The approximate value of the procurement is 125.50 lac.

| UBN No. | TENDER ID |
|---|---|
| DLB2425RFP0034 | 2025_DLB_448603_1 |

Raj.Samwad/C/24/11948 — Commissioner, Municipal Corporation,Alwar

**कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम जोधपुर**
क्रमांक: 10001 दिनांक: 10.02.2025
**निविदा सूचना संख्याः 21 वर्ष 2024-2025**
**NIB No. PWD2425A4140**
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निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेबसाईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
1. PWD2425WLOB14913
ई-साईन (एन सी. शर्मा) अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर
DIPR/C/1904/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**
HIDCO
West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No.35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–14/HIDCO/Admn-4206/2024 Date 18.02.2025
**Abridged Notice for e-Auction**
E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 5.97 ACRES (24160 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. IIIF/12 & IIIF/15 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "EDUCATIONAL / INSTITUTIONAL" PURPOSE.
[e-Auction ID:2025_WB_4406] dtd. 18.02.2025]

| PLOT NO. | PLOT SIZE | E-AUCTION DATE | LAST DATE OF APPLICATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| PLOT NO. NO. IIIF/12 & IIIF/15 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA | 5.97 Acres | 26.03.2025 | 19.03.2025 up to 14:00 hrs. |

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038
ICA- T3465(4)/2025

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
**KARNATAKA MEDICAL COLLEGE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, HUBBALLI**
Phone No:0836-2373348
1) DME/2024-25/IND 1220
2) DME/2024-25/IND 1221
**ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ** ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ
ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಇವರು ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರದಾರರಾದ ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರು / ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಏಜೆಂಟ್ಸ್ / ಅಧಿಕೃತ ವಿತರಕರಿಂದ ಕೆ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.& ಆರ್.ಐ. ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ ಲ್ಯಾಬ್ ರಿ-ಏಜೆಂಟ್ಸ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಸಿ.ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್.ಡಿ. & ಜನರಲ್ ಸರ್ಜಿಕಲ್ ಡಿಸ್ಪೋಜೆಬಲ್ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹೂರೈಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಖರೀದಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 1999 ಶಾಸನ 2000 ಅನ್ವಯ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.
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ಸಹಿ/– (ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು)
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124
**संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE**
ई–निविदा सूचना सं./ e- Tender Notice No: CMG/C/CON/248738 तिथि/ Date. 17.02.2025
भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से **"एसडीएससी शार, श्रीहरिकोटा ज्वीर के फेज–1 की उत्तर दिशा में 2.20 किमी. के लिए तटरेखा सुरक्षा उपाय (सं. 2 परिवर्ती जलरोधिका (ग्रोयेन्स) एवं सं. 3 अनुदैर्ध्य जल रोधिका (ग्रोयेन्स) का निर्माण)" (₹ 1812.00 लाख)**; के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज **11/03/2025** को **14:30** बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट www.isro.gov.in या www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO परजाएं।
On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **"Shoreline Protection Measures (Construction of 2 nos. of transitional groynes & 3 nos. of longitudinal Groynes) for 2.20 kms on northern side of Sriharikota island, SDSC SHAR (Phase-I)" (₹ 1812.00 Lakhs)**; Tender documents can be downloaded up to **11/03/2025, 14:30** hrs. Interested tenderers may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.
हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / **Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR**

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124
**संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE**
ई–निविदा सूचना सं./ e- Tender Notice No: CMG/C/CON/248737 तिथि/ Date. 17.02.2025
भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, **"एसडीएससी शार में आगंतुक परिसर (कंक्रीट क्षेत्र, पत्थर निर्मित आकृति (हार्ड स्केप), फव्वारा, वृक्षारोपक बॉक्स आदि) के सामने वाले प्रवेश क्षेत्र (मुख्य सड़क से प्रवेश प्लाजा तक) के लिए प्रस्तावित सिविल कार्य" (₹167 लाख)** के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज **27/02/2025** को **14:30** बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट www.isro.gov.in या www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO पर जा सकते हैं।
On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **"Proposed Civil Works for Front Entrance area (Main road to Entrance Plaza) of Visitors Complex (Paver area, Hard scape, Cascade, Planter Box etc.) at SDSC SHAR" (₹167 Lakhs)**; Tender documents can be downloaded up to **27/02/2025, 14:30** hrs. Interested tenderers may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.
हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / **Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR**

**AMBUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION (AEDOL)**
AEDOL
43/53, Raja Muthiah Road, Periamet, Chennai - 600 003 Telephone: 044 - 4204 1132 / 3552 8648
email: aedolchennai@yahoo.co.in, aedolchennai@gmail.com Website: www.aedol-spv.com
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR UP-GRADATION OF COMMON EFFLUENT TREATMENT PLANT AMBUR TEC – MALIGAITHOPE & THUTHIPET, AMBUR**
AEDOL, as Implementation Agency of Upgradation of CETP system in Maligaithope & Thuthipet CETP, Ambur at Tamil Nadu under STEP scheme of DPIIT, GOI invites sealed bids in two cover system (1.Technical Bid & 2. Financial Bid) separately from experienced agencies, who have completed similar works on turnkey basis for the undermentioned work:

| Name of Work | Value of EMD |
|---|---|
| Tender No.1/2025: Design, Engineering, Construction of Civil & allied works for Paddle dryer at Maligaithope CETP | Rs.1.94 Lakhs |
| Tender No.2/2025: Design, detailed engineering, supply, installation, commissioning and trail run on turnkey basis of 500 kg/hr. hollow paddle sludge dryer based on thermic fluid heating system at Maligaithope CETP | Rs.8.25 Lakhs |
| Tender No.3/2025: Design, Engineering, Construction of Civil & allied works for Paddle dryer & APFC panel room at Thuthipet CETP | Rs.2.64 Lakhs |
| Tender No.4/2025: Design, detailed engineering, supply, installation, commissioning and trail run on turnkey basis of 1000 kg/hr. hollow paddle sludge dryer based on thermic fluid heating system at Thuthipet CETP | Rs.10.91 Lakhs |
| Tender No.5/2025: Supply, installation, commissioning, integration and trial run on turnkey basis of Online Continuous Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS) at Thuthipet CETP | Rs.1.16 Lakhs |
| Tender No.6/2025: Design, detailed engineering, supply, installation, commissioning and trail run on turnkey basis of Automatic Power Factor Controller Panel (APFC) with harmonic filter (Hybrid Panel) at Thuthipet CETP | Rs.1.60 Lakhs |

| | |
|---|---|
| Sale Period / Tender Download | On all working days from 24th Feb to 18th March, 2025 |
| Pre-Bid Meeting | 5th March, 2025 at 3.30 PM at AEDOL Office |
| Date of submission | 18th March, 2025 at 3:00 pm at AEDOL Office |

Interested Tenderers may apply to issue of Tender documents by submitting a written application for each tender separately along with profile to the Managing Director, AEDOL, Chennai-3, Soft copy of tender documents shall be issued free of cost. Further the tenderer may participate either in one or more than one tender. AEDOL reserves the right to withdraw this proposal or reject any or all bids or to allot part of the work to different agencies without assigning any reasons thereof.
Managing Director AEDOL

**APPOINTMENT**
**Central Tribal University of A.P.**
Vizianagaram (A.P.) 535003
**Recruitment Notification**
Applications are invited from the prospective & eligible candidates for the post of **Registrar.** Visit University website **www.ctuap.ac.in** for qualifications, eligibility criteria and other details.
Last date for applying online : **12/03/2025 (23:59 hrs)**
**Advt. No. CTUAP/Advt-NT/2025/268 dt. 19/02/2025** Registrar (I/c)

**RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDHYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED**
**Notice Inviting Bid**
Bid for Construction of LILO of One Ckt. Of existing 400KV D/C (Twin Moose) Bikaner-SSTPS (Suratgarh) line (From LILO Point to proposed RVPN GSS) (Approx. 50KM) under deposit work of RVUN including Survey, Supply of all Equipments/Materials, Erection (including Civil works), Testing and Commissioning (on Turnkey basis) against Specification No. RVPN/EHV/BN-9018002433 (UBN: VPN2425WLOB03015) are invited from Interested Bidders Up to 04:00 PM ON 24.03.2025.
Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in)** of the state; and **http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl** departmental website.
Superintending Engineer (Contracts-I), Jaipur
Raj.Samwad/C/24/11958 RRVPN/TR-6626/2025

**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**
Office of the Deputy Commissioner (Admin), 1st floor, Annex-1 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.
No.DC/ADMIN/TENDER/01/2024-25 Date:19.02.2025
**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**
(Through GOK KPP Portal only) (Two Cover System)
The Deputy Commissioner (Admin), BBMP, Bangalore on behalf of the Chief Commissioner, BBMP invites tenders from eligible Agencies/Consultancy Firms who have registered in any State Government organizations and license holders from labour department for the Man Power Supply detailed in the table below.

| Sl. No. | Particular |
|---|---|
| 1 | Providing Engineering Graduate Employee and Diploma Engineer Employee in Civil Engineering to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for the **Period of 11 Months.** Approximate value of work/Service : **5,01,26,873,** EMD : **Rs. 7,52,000/-** (1 Lakh through e-Payment & balance through Bank Guarantee) |

**1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from GOK e-Procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** **2)** Pre-Bid Meeting: **28.02.2025 at 3.30 pm. 3)** Online Tender queries: **28.02.2025 upto 3.00 pm. 4)** Last date and time for receipt of tenders: **12.03.2025 upto 5.30 pm. 5)** Date of opening Technical Bids: **13.03.2025 at 5:30 pm. 6)** Date of opening Financial Bids: **14.03.2025 at 5:30 pm**. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours & also from website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
**Sd/- Deputy Commissioner (Admin), BBMP.**

A BG-BGE

## INBRIEF

### U.P. to deliver water from Maha Kumbh to prisoners

The Uttar Pradesh Jails Department is making arrangements to take holy water from Maha Kumbh, Prayagraj, to all major jails across the State, allowing inmates to participate in the festival. "The programme will take place in all the jails on February 21, from 9.30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Over 90,000 inmates are currently lodged in 75 jails, including seven central prisons, across the State. The holy water from the Sangam will be taken to all the jails, mixed with regular water, and stored in a small tank within the jail premises. All the prisoners will bathe in the water after prayers," an official statement reads.

### J&K HC quashes Kashmiri journalist's detention

The J&K High Court on Wednesday quashed the detention of Majid Hyderi, an independent journalist and television debater, after over 17 months of jail under the preventive detention law, Public Safety Act (PSA). Justice V.K. Chatterjee quashed the order after hearing the plea. Mr. Hyderi was arrested on September 14, 2023, in Srinagar and was booked under the PSA. He was shifted 300 km away from Srinagar and lodged at Kot Bhalwal Jail in Jammu region. Before being slapped with the PSA – a law that allows detention for two years without a trial – Mr. Hyderi faced charges of "criminal conspiracy, extortion, spreading false information, and defamation". A local journalist had filed a complaint against Mr. Hyderi over his write-ups.

# Odisha govt. promises action over Nepalese student death

Chief Minister speaks to two Nepalese counsellors who have come to Bhubaneswar over the 'ill-treatment' of students, urges students to return to the KIIT campus and resume their studies

**Satyasundar Barik**
BHUBANESWAR

As protests continued over the alleged ill-treatment of Nepalese students in the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) here, the Odisha government assured Nepal that justice would be served in the case of a student's suicide on campus.

Chief Minister Mohan Majhi spoke with Nepalese counsellors Sanjeeb Das Sharma and Navin Raj Adhikari, assuring them that justice will be served in the case of the deceased KIIT student.

In a post on the social media platform X, the Chief Minister said that peace and normalcy would be restored to the KIIT campus. He urged Nepalese students to return to campus and resume their studies.

The Chief Minister's Office said the Ministers Mukesh Mahaling and Suryabanshi Suraj, along with Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja, held discussions with Nepal representatives to ensure the restoration of normalcy at the KIIT.

Nepal Foreign Minister Arzu Rana Deuba spoke to Mr. Suraj over the phone regarding the matter.

**For the victim:** A protester holds up a poster during a protest over the death of a Nepalese student on the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology campus in Bhubaneswar on Wednesday. PTI

Nepal Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli reacted to the alleged abuse of Nepalese students in KIIT. Mr. Oli, in a message, had said, "Our embassy in New Delhi has dispatched two officers to counsel Nepali students affected in Odisha. Additionally, arrangements have been made to ensure they have the option to either remain in their hostel or return home, based on their preference."

**Panel visits campus**

A high-level committee, which was formed by the State government to ascertain the circumstances leading to the alleged suicide and high-handed action by university authorities, visited the KIIT campus.

"As per the direction of State government, we have visited the campus, hostels and other areas. We will submit our report appropriately to the government. We have also met the Nepal delegation. The State government is fully committed to take action as per law," Satyabrata Sahu, Home Secretary and chairman of the committee, said.

A Nepalese student at KIIT University was found dead in her hostel room on February 16, She was reported to have a strained relationship with a male friend. The incident sparked a student protest on campus.

In response, KIIT authorities took a heavy-handed approach, dropping off several students at the Cuttack Railway Station without making any arrangements for their onward travel.

Additionally, on February 17, the university declared a *sine die* closure specifically for Nepalese students – a move unprecedented in any educational institution.

Sources indicate that the Bhubaneswar Police may soon question the male friend, who has since been remanded in jail.

# Legal system should evolve to respect adolescent love: HC

**Soibam Rocky Singh**
NEW DELHI

**Judge says the trial court's acquittal of a POCSO accused was 'well-reasoned and does not require any interference'**

The Delhi High Court has advocated "a compassionate approach that prioritises understanding over punishment in cases involving adolescent love", noting that the "legal system must safeguard the rights of young individuals to love while ensuring their safety and well-being".

The court's observation came while adjudicating a case of sexual assault registered against a man under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act by the father of a 16-year-old girl.

Justice Jasmeet Singh came to the conclusion that the decision of the trial court acquitting the man in February 2020 was "well-reasoned and does not require any interference".

The court took note of the fact that the girl has categorically stated that the relationship between her and the man was with her consent. "All the facts proved in this case clearly indicate the willingness of the prosecutrix (girl) to accompany the respondent (man) and the respondent established physical relations with the consent of the prosecutrix," the court said.

Justice Singh remarked that "the POCSO Act was promulgated for the protection of children. The Act, however, did not choose to draw any distinction as to a girl of less than 18 who chooses a partner out of her own choice and volition". "Therefore, any sexual act or intercourse by a man with such a girl would constitute an offence under various provisions of the POCSO Act of 2012," the judge said.

Justice Singh said, "I believe that societal and legal views on adolescent love should emphasise the rights of young individuals to engage in romantic relationships that are free from exploitation and abuse".

"Love is a fundamental human experience, and adolescents have the right to form emotional connections. The law should evolve to acknowledge and respect these relationships, as long as they are consensual and free from coercion," the judge said in the judgment passed on January 30.

# Faith healer's sentencing an eye-opener: survivors

**The Hindu Bureau**
SRINAGAR

Survivors have described the sentencing of self-proclaimed faith-healer Aijaz Sheikh for sexually abusing minors in north Kashmir's Sopore as "an eye-opener for our community which blindly trusts those in positions of power". Sheikh was recently sent to 14 years of imprisonment.

The convict, Sheikh, who worked as an Imam, schoolteacher and faith healer, exploited his position to sexually abuse vulnerable children, many of them under 10 years of age.

He was arrested in 2016 following multiple complaints of sexual abuse filed by survivors.

"This case has been an eye-opener for our community which blindly trusts those in positions of power. It highlights the necessity of educating both parents and children about normal physical boundaries, because this ignorance and stigma is precisely what predators exploit," one of the survivors was quoted as saying by iProbono India, a social justice organisation.

Sheikh's chargesheet points out systematic abuse of young boys, many minors, for decades.

The details of many cases of abuse were chilling and unsettling. Many survivors were psychologically manipulated, believing a djinn was inside Sheikh, making them comply out of fear of supernatural consequences. "He [Sheikh] also used his position as a schoolteacher and religious leader, manipulating the trust he had built within the community to inflict his crimes on the victims," the survivor said.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate in Sopore, while pronouncing the quantum of sentence this week, observed: "If this judgment serves as a catalyst afor those silent voices, who have long endured unspeakable trauma, struggled in the shadows of despair, and now look toward the law with the last vestiges of hope, then justice has, in some measure, already begun to prevail."

The court has granted liberty to other survivors, who were registered as witnesses in the present case, to file separate first information reports (FIRs) against Sheikh.

The conviction has come after a long struggle of the survivors, as the case hearing was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic, judicial replacements and procedural difficulties.

# *The Hindu*, Fragomen Educational Services join hands to guide students opting to study abroad

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHENNAI

In an era of evolving global education policies, studying abroad has become both an exciting opportunity and a complex decision for students.

Recognising the need for trusted guidance, *The Hindu* and Fragomen Educational Services (FES) have joined hands to launch "Study Abroad Simplified", a year-long initiative designed to help students make informed decisions about international education.

With policies in countries such as Canada, the U.S., the U.K., and Australia undergoing significant changes, students require expert insights to navigate their journey towards studying abroad.

The "Study Abroad Simplified" initiative will provide them with credible, expert-led content, webinars, and interactive sessions, ensuring they have access to the latest updates on visa regulations, scholarship opportunities, career prospects, and cultural adaptation.

**Strategic partnership**

"Indians go abroad for studies not just for the quality of academics and subsequent career opportunities but also for the exposure and diversity of experiences. This is reflected in the increasing interest in opportunities in many, different countries and in undergrad studies, besides graduate and research programmes. Professional handholding of the aspirants is a bigger need today," said M. Kalyanaraman, Head, Education Vertical, *The Hindu*.

This initiative leverages *The Hindu*'s legacy of trusted journalism and FES's expertise in global education consultancy to create a robust awareness platform.

Through a combination of print, digital, and onground activities, "Study Abroad Simplified" will reach students in key education hubs across Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Kochi.

The campaign will include webinars by *The Hindu* editorial team bringing together industry experts, articles with expert insights from Fragomen specialists, awareness campaigns on social media, and connect sessions in cities.

**The campaign will include webinars by *The Hindu* editorial team along with industry experts**

**A shared commitment**

Dennis Joseph, managing director, FES, said: "Studying abroad is a transformative journey that requires informed decision-making. Our collaboration with *The Hindu* enables us to reach a wider audience, equipping students with the knowledge to choose the best path for their future."

Saju James, managing partner, Fragomen India said, "Through our partnership with *The Hindu*, we are committed to empowering passionate students, opening doors to global opportunities and shaping a promising future."

Suresh Balakrishna, Chief Revenue Officer of The Hindu Group, said, "At *The Hindu*, we have always been committed to empowering our readers with insightful and impactful information. We are extending this commitment to students who aspire to pursue global education. This initiative, in collaboration with Fragomen Educational Services, will serve as a trusted guide, equipping students and parents with expert insights on visa regulations, scholarships and career pathways."

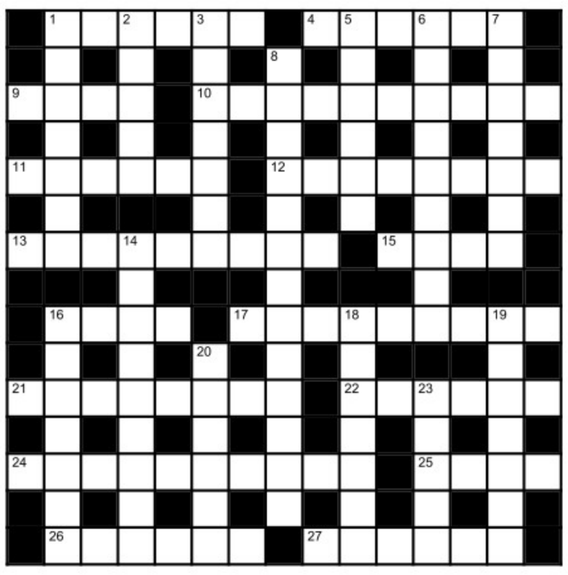
Please write to us at studyabroadsimplified@thehindu.co.in or WhatsApp us at 89392 83283 for more details.

## TH CROSSWORD + 14413

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



**Across**

**1** New stem and almost a part of a flower (6)
**4** Firm getting a shelter for animals (6)
**9** High uncles laugh at beginner's dance (4)
**10** Morons got a bit rowdy, broke vault (10)
**11** Say, Williams finishing off fifth contender untroubled (6)
**12** Daughter with ease, as we hear collected money with people for a leather garment (8)
**13** Courier in trouble, keen to leave a note in place (9)
**15** Butchery by ex-VP (4)
**16** New small tea stall (4)
**17** Say, safety drill conducted by top two cricketers (Ash) at match (5-4)
**21** Squash club collects fee (8)
**22** Lost a small plate (6)
**24** Deputy's corruption on company lease (10)
**25** Flower offered for God (4)
**26** Identity card? ID card lost by individual (6)
**27** Magnificent rehearsal showcases focus (6)

**Down**

**1** Sleep in small shed, I am told (4-3)
**2** A positive tennis serve, fast (5)
**3** As per report, agitation at CERN, head dismissed by direction (7)
**5** Ostentatious with money, steals regularly (6)
**6** Forbids to construct plant (5,4)
**7** Controversial agenda tabled by Spain (7)
**8** Electrical appliance found at foothill, available at Zepto taken by engineer (6-7)
**14** Worried people enter vacant tenement after society's communiqué (9)
**16** Injured bat, lies immobile (7)
**18** Upset hero at empty terminal exited entrance (7)
**19** Ideas floated in Southern Spain coast (7)
**20** Caution in dugout, one taking last wicket (6)
**23** Model is not Mark (5)

## SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
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| 3 | 7 | | | 2 | | 4 | | |
| 4 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 7 | | | |
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| 8 | 5 | | 2 | | | | | |

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

**Solution to previous puzzle**

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | E | C | O | C | T | ■ | ■ | S |
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**Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**

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| 6 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 5 |
| 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 9 |
| 4 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| 8 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 1 |
| 7 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 2 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 4 |
| 3 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 7 |
| 5 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| 9 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 3 |

## FAITH

### Chanting God's names

Chanting is the easiest means of connecting with God. Azhwars, Nayanmars, and Acharyas adopted this practice and handed it to us. It is sufficient if a person comes to know that God will be pleased with the chanting of His name. It helps bring the mind under control. An elephant sways its trunk. A mahout puts a heavy chain on the trunk to stop the undulation. Our mind is fickle and weaves like the trunk of an elephant. One of the meanings of Guru is a mass of knowledge, and we need a guru to control the weaving of our mind. Mind is the root cause of our difficulties. People can derive comfort and pleasure by goading the mind. There may be distractions when we see, and when we hear, weariness may creep in, but while chanting, there won't be any such predicament. Chanting is not expensive and does not have any injunctions. Chanting the name of God and pinning faith are the two oars of our lifeboat that help swim the sea of samsara.

Sri Ramanujamji said in a discourse that "*Prarthana*" is a plea that people submit to God deep from their hearts. Chanting will make God turn towards us. Lord manifested as Sri Rama. His younger brother Bharatha was his ardent devotee. He pleaded with Rama to return from the forest and accept the kingdom. But Bharatha's plea was rejected because of Rama's promise to his father. All His divine powers were embedded in His sandals and given to Bharatha. In fulfilling our *prarthanas*, sometimes there may be a delay due to some impediments, but God will fulfil with more benefits than expected.

Chanting will deplete the effects of our Karma, make a man light-hearted, and transcend the time barrier.

## INBRIEF

### Trade-related policies to stoke inflation: RBI Bulletin

The near-term outlook of the global economy is being shaped by trade-related policies of major economies amidst slowing pace of disinflation and these policies could stoke inflation, engender tighter financial conditions, and heighten market turbulence, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) officials said in the February edition of the RBI Bulletin released on Wednesday. In India, economic activity momentum is poised to be sustained, they emphasised.

### Toyota opens bookings for Land Cruiser 300 SUV

Toyota Kirloskar Motor has opened bookings for its sport utility vehicle (SUV) the Land Cruiser 300, known for power, luxury and off-roading capability. The completely-built unit (CBU) will be imported from Japan. Powered by a Twin-Turbo V6 diesel engine, the vehicle will be available in 'Precious White Pearl' and 'Attitude Black' colours. The Land Cruiser 300 is priced at ₹2.31 crore (ex-showroom) for 'ZX' and ₹2.41 crore (ex-showroom) for 'GR-S' variants.

### UAE's NMDC Group to invest ₹21,000 cr. at Vadhvan Port

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) said it had signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with NMDC Group PJSC (formerly National Marine Dredging Company PJSC), for construction of the Vadhvan Port Project Ltd. in Maharashtra. As per the MoU, NMDC Group PJSC has proposed to invest an estimated ₹21,000 crore for the development of the land offshore of Vadhvan Coast by dredging, reclamation and shore protection of the Vadhvan Port.

# Infosys denies using intimidation tactics at Mysuru campus

IT services firm says no force was used when it laid off over 300 trainees; Infosys is cooperating with labour department officials, says HR official

**Press Trust of India**
NEW DELHI

IT services company Infosys on Wednesday said it did not use force or intimidation tactics when it laid off trainees at Mysuru campus over performance-related issues, and that it was explaining the circumstances to the labour department authorities.

In an interview to PTI, Shaji Mathew, Chief Human Resources Officer at Infosys, however, conceded that assessment failure percentages this time around have been "slightly higher" than in the past but dismissed charges that the tests had been designed for failure.

On whether the lay-offs would dent Infosys' brand as the company goes out to campuses for FY26 hiring, he said plans to hire 20,000 freshers for next fiscal are on track and that they should have nothing to worry about as they will get one of the best corporate training.

Responding to allegations that testing parameters, assessment criteria and syllabus were altered and intimidation tactics were resorted leading to the 300 plus terminations at Mysuru campus recently, Mr. Mathew said given the company invests money and effort to select and put trainees through the training programme "it is in the interest of Infosys to see that all these people are successful, and that is when we are able to put them into our projects".

On the Labour Ministry's direction to Karnataka State Labour Department to take action, and reports that department officials had followed up with visits to Infosys campuses in Bengaluru and Mysuru, Mr. Mathew said the Labour Department is in touch with the company and Infosys is cooperating with the authorities.

Asked if reinstating trainees would be considered he said, "There has been no further ask in terms of taking them back".

Mr. Mathew countered allegations claiming that at no point were 'bouncers' brought in, nor were intimidation tactics used.

The Indian IT sector, long synonymous with large-scale hiring, is recalibrating with multiple headwinds reshaping its trajectory, industry experts said.

V. Balakrishnan, former CFO Infosys and current chairman, Exfinity, a B2B-focused fund said economic headwinds include slowing global demand, shrinking profit margins and rapid AI adoption.

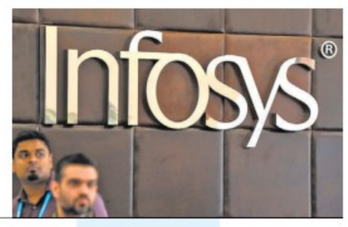
"As the correlation between headcount and revenue weakens, the era of large-scale hiring and maintaining extensive talent benches is becoming obsolete. The new paradigm will be defined by just-in-time hiring, selective recruitment of high-end talent, and aggressive up-skilling of the workforce," he said.

The lay-offs in the sector had caused a fear psychosis in the hiring market, said Kapil Joshi, CEO, Quess IT Staffing.

*(With inputs from Mini Tejaswi in Bengaluru)*

**Damage control?**

It is in Infosys's interest to ensure trainees succeed, says company official




- Concedes assessment failure percentages 'slightly higher' this time
- Asserts tests were not designed for failure
- Says plans to hire 20,000 freshers for next fiscal on track
- 'No further ask of taking sacked trainees back'

# Salaries in India to grow at a slower pace in 2025, shows study

**Ashokamithran T.**
MUMBAI

**'Wage growth in real estate/infrastructure sector will weaken to 9.7% in 2025, from 10.6% a year ago'**

Salaries in India are expected to grow at a slightly slower pace of 9.2% in 2025, as against 9.3% last year, according to a research by Aon, a professional consultancy firm.

Wage growth in the real estate/ infrastructure sector will weaken to 9.7% in 2025, from 10.6% a year ago. Automotive sector will also see a sizeable moderation in pay growth to 10.2% in 2025, as against 10.7% recorded in 2024, Aon said in its study, which involved the analysis of data of 1,400 companies in 45 industries. Banking salaries' growth is also expected to weaken by 0.3 percentage points to 8.8% in 2025.

Wages are expected to grow faster in the professional services sector, and chemical sector where pay will grow at 9.5% and 9.2% respectively in 2025.

# Google opens new campus in Bengaluru

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Tech major Google on Wednesday opened its new campus at Mahadevapura, in the outskirts of Bengaluru. The campus, named Ananta, is touted to be among its largest offices globally.

The 1.6 mn sq.ft building can accommodate over 5,000 employees. The company currently employs 10,000 workers in India, the largest employee base outside its home country, the firm said.

This is another major milestone in Google's ongoing commitment to India and part of the company's ongoing efforts to build with and for India and the world, said Anand Rangarajan, vice president, Product, Google Deepmind.

The new campus is likely to house teams from various Google units such as Android, Search, Play, Pay, Cloud, Maps, and Google Deepmind.

### Single.id to reward Dhoni fans in app on purchases

Single.id, a reward systems platform, will reward former Indian cricket captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni's fans on the DHONI app for their purchases with partner retailers, said Enigmatic Smile, a U.K.-based reward tech firm.

## MARKETS

### MARKET WATCH

| | WEDNESDAY | % CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Sensex | 75,939 | -0.04 |
| Gold | 89,400 | 1.01 |
| Brent oil | 76.43 | 0.97 |

### NIFTY 50

| | PRICE | CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Adani Enter | 2180.80 | -39.50 |
| Adani Ports | 1082.85 | -2.30 |
| Apollo Hosp | 6422.65 | 45.80 |
| Asian Paints | 2239.10 | 1.50 |
| Axis Bank | 1011.35 | 17.20 |
| Bajaj Auto | 8479.50 | 32.90 |
| Bajaj Finserv | 1875.35 | -18.35 |
| Bajaj Finance | 8439.45 | -26.45 |
| Bharat Elec | 253.40 | 8.80 |
| Bharti Airtel | 1645.20 | -23.70 |
| BPCL | 255.60 | 2.85 |
| Britannia Ind | 4837.50 | -53.70 |
| Cipla | 1464.15 | -17.95 |
| Coal India | 362.30 | 1.20 |
| Dr Reddys Lab | 1165.85 | -31.55 |
| Eicher Motors | 4810.60 | 91.20 |
| Grasim Ind | 2463.20 | 0.00 |
| HCL Tech | 1712.30 | -13.20 |
| HDFC Bank | 1727.20 | 4.15 |
| HDFC Life | 622.85 | 3.90 |
| Hero MotoCorp | 3879.15 | 38.65 |
| Hindalco | 626.30 | 14.85 |
| Hind Unilever | 2250.40 | -45.60 |
| ICICI Bank | 1261.65 | 18.60 |
| IndusInd Bank | 1035.80 | 11.70 |
| Infosys | 1810.80 | -41.15 |
| ITC | 406.40 | 1.15 |
| JSW Steel | 977.35 | -1.45 |
| Kotak Bank | 1985.00 | 21.65 |
| L&T | 3275.90 | 55.75 |
| M&M | 2757.40 | -32.65 |
| Maruti Suzuki | 12686.15 | -100.05 |
| NestleIndia | 2204.95 | -17.45 |
| NTPC | 314.80 | 3.60 |
| ONGC | 238.30 | 1.70 |
| PowerGrid Corp | 263.05 | -3.90 |
| Reliance Ind | 1227.45 | 2.05 |
| SBI Life | 1475.60 | 0.25 |
| State Bank | 727.30 | 1.50 |
| Shriram Finance Ltd. | 557.80 | 4.45 |
| Sun Pharma | 1676.60 | -25.00 |
| TataConsumerProduct | 1025.30 | -1.65 |
| Tata Motors | 681.00 | -1.40 |
| Tata Steel | 135.76 | 1.22 |
| TCS | 3784.10 | -89.10 |
| Tech Mahindra | 1685.80 | -19.20 |
| Titan | 3210.30 | -11.55 |
| Trent Ltd. | 4991.45 | -6.30 |
| UltraTech Cement | 11291.55 | -17.35 |
| Wipro | 314.10 | 1.90 |

# AI to change 30-40% bank job roles, says Deutsche Bank's CTO

**Poulomi Chatterjee**
BENGALURU

"The banking sector is expected to see a change in 30-40% of the job roles Some might even disappear. But the problem especially in Europe is we are short on skilled labour. In this case, AI is a recipe to enable continuous growth because it can add value without needing to add more people," said Bernd Leukert, chief technology, data and innovation officer, Deutsche Bank.

He highlighted the lender's cloud transformation journey with Google Cloud as partner and the ongoing integration of GenAI tools.

Speaking at an event here, Mr. Leukert denied AI was a threat to the labour market.

"Earlier, growth in revenue and customers was tied to more people in operations. Since we're trying to keep our total headcount mostly flat, we strongly believe investment in technology will allow us to grow the business without permanently adding people," he said.

Mr. Leukert said they would continue hiring in the near future.

"India is a huge source of talent. That's why we have grown to 8,500 people just in technology within a decade," he added.

# 'Unfair to U.S. if Tesla builds India factory'

**Amiti Sen**
NEW DELHI

U.S. President Donald Trump said it was impossible for Tesla CEO Elon Musk to sell his cars in India because of the high import tariffs and if he were to build a factory to manufacture vehicles in the country, that would be unfair to his country.

Alleging India just about charged the highest tariffs in the world, Mr. Trump warned the U.S. would deal with this in a very fair way by charging the country as much tariffs as it was charging the U.S.

"Now, if he built the factory in India, that's okay, but that's unfair to us," Mr. Trump said along with Mr. Musk to *Fox News*.

Mr. Trump complained every country in the world took advantage of the U.S., and they did it with tariffs.

He cited India's tariffs on automobiles and said, "They make it impossible for him (Mr. Musk) to sell a car, practically, in, as an example, India." Mr. Musk confirmed India's auto tariffs were as high as 100%.

*(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)*

**कार्यालय अधिशाषी अभियंता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, खण्ड शाहपुरा जिला भीलवाड़ा**
क्रमांक :- तकनीकी/निविदा/डी-6626-6635 दिनांक :- 05.02.2025
**ई-टेण्डरिंग निविदा सूचना संख्या: 27 / 2024-25**
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से भवन निर्माण/ सड़क निर्माण कार्यों हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान मे पंजीकृत संवेदकों, एवं केन्द्रीय/ राज्य सरकार व उनके अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के विभिन्न श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में कुल 13 पैकेज/ कार्यों, जिनकी कुल लागत राशि रु. 2376.63 लाख है, के लिए ई- टेन्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाइन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है:-
निविदा फार्म डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख एवं समय 10.02.2025 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 01.03.2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक
निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाईट "http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in" पर एवं निविदा दस्तावेज का विवरण वेबसाईट "http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" एवं "http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in" पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया "http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जावेगी।
NIB No. :- PWD2425A4112, UBN No. :- PWD2425WSOB14778, PWD2425WSOB14779, PWD2425WSOB14780, PWD2425WSOB14781, PWD2425WSOB14783, PWD2425WSOB14785, PWD2425WSOB14787, PWD2425WSOB14788, PWD2425WSOB14790, PWD2425WSOB14791, PWD2425WSOB14792, PWD2425WSOB14793, PWD2425WSOB14795
DIPR/C/1831/25
(शहजाद मोहम्मद) अधिशाषी अभियंता सा.नि.वि. खण्ड शाहपुरा जिला भीलवाड़ा
Email :- eeshahpura.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in मोबाईल नं. 9251414884

**कार्यालय अधिशाषी अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग खण्ड सूरतगढ़**
Email ID : xensog.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in, Phone No. 01509-220069
क्रमांक :- अअसू./नि.सं. 10/2024-25/ 2606 दिनांक :- 07.02.2025
**ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 12 वर्ष 2024-25**
**NIB Code : PWD2425A4114 (सड़क निर्माण कार्य)**
Bid for Construction of Various BT Roads under Package No RJ-31-01/New Roads/49 Imp works / RR / 2024-25 Dist Sri Ganganagar are invited from interested bidders from dated 10-02-2025 09:30 AM to 03-03-2025 upto 06:00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state and departmental website. The approximate value of above 01 no work procurement is **Rs. 345.35 Lakhs.**
1. **PWD2425WSOB14794**
DIPR/C/1863/25
अधिशाषी अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. खण्ड सूरतगढ़

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Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences, an Autonomous Tertiary Level Medical Teaching Institute under Govt of UP, invites **eligible candidates** from ALL Categories for appointments on Regular basis to the Assistant Professor posts in various Broad and Super Speciality Departments. For detailed advertisement/information, Terms & Conditions, link to online application forms, and subsequent updates, kindly visit the Institute website : **https://drrmlims.ac.in/recruitment** from **21 February 2025.**
**Director**

**Soban Singh Jeena Government Institute of Medical Science & Research Almora**
**Near Vikas Bhawan, Pandeykhola, Almora, Distt-Almora-263601 (Uttarakhand)**
e-mail - principal.gmcalmora@gmail.com http://www.ssjgimsralmora.org
मोबाइल सं.:- 9412410759 फोन नम्बर -05962-230557
**Letter No. : 124/GMCA/G-1/Advertisement/2024-25 Date:- 19th February, 2025**
**Walk-In-Interview**
**A Walk In interview** for various post of **"Professor, Associate Professor & Assistant Professor"** at **Soban Singh Jeena Government Institute of Medical Science & Research Almora** will be held on **03-03-2025 at 10:00am** onwards in **"Office of the Principal, Soban Singh Jeena Government Institute of Medical Science & Research Almora".** Registration will be done on the day of interview till 1:00 PM only. The post will be filled on yearly renewal contract basis for a maximum period of **03 (three)** years or till regular appointment are made. For further details please visit our **website**:-
**http://www.ssjgimsralmora.org, www.medicaleducation.uk.gov.in & www.hnbumu.ac.in**
**Principal**
**SSJ Govt. IMSR Almora**
**Almora.**

**What You Need to Know About the Latest Advances in Cancer Screening**

Early diagnosis is not just good — it's the best step in preventing and effectively treating cancer. Timely detection means more treatment options, improved survival rates, and a better quality of life. With cancer cases rising, especially in India, a proactive health mindset is key.

Let's look at the latest advancements in cancer screening.

**Advanced MRI Protocols: Early Detection Without Radiation**

- **Abbreviated MRI:** For breast cancer, abbreviated MRI is a game-changer. It delivers high-sensitivity imaging in less time, making it patient-friendly, faster, and cost-effective. While 3D mammography remains the gold standard, abbreviated MRI is ideal for women at higher risk or with dense breasts.
- **Whole-Body MRI:** Traditional imaging methods like X-rays have low sensitivity to early disease. CT and PET scans expose patients to radiation, limiting frequent use. Whole-body MRI, however, offers a safer, radiation-free alternative, scanning the entire body in one go to detect abnormalities in multiple organs.

*"With rising obesity rates, certain cancers are becoming more common. Maintaining a healthy weight is a critical factor in cancer prevention."*

***Dr Mukta Mahajan***
*Lead Consultant - Breast and Interventional Radiology*
*Apollo Proton Cancer Centre, Chennai*

**Low-Dose CT (LDCT): Early Diagnosis of Lung Cancer**

Lung cancer is often diagnosed too late, especially in non-smokers unaware of their risk. LDCT scans detect lung cancer early, reducing mortality by 20-25% in high-risk individuals. While smoking is the primary cause, air pollution, workplace exposure, and family history also play a role, highlighting the need for broader screening awareness.

**AI-Driven Risk Prediction: Personalised Screening for Better Outcomes**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionising cancer screening. AI-powered breast cancer risk prediction tools assess an individual's likelihood of developing cancer, helping doctors tailor screening plans. This ensures the right balance — preventing unnecessary tests while ensuring high-risk individuals receive timely evaluations.

**What You Can Do Today**

Despite technological advances, many people hesitate to undergo cancer screenings due to fear, misinformation, or lack of awareness. The key is education and proactive healthcare.

- **Early diagnosis is best:** Regular screenings like Pap smears (for cervical cancer), PSA tests (for prostate cancer), breast self-exams, and oral health checks can detect cancer early when treatment is most effective.
- **Vaccination saves lives:** The HPV and Hepatitis B vaccines dramatically lower the risk of cervical and liver cancers.
- **Lifestyle changes matter:** Quitting tobacco, moderating alcohol intake, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle significantly reduce cancer risks.

**Proactive Measures and Early Screening**

Early detection is beneficial, but it does not guarantee a diagnosis, nor does it mean unnecessary interventions. The primary purpose of screening is to provide individuals with knowledge about their health, allowing them to make informed decisions. The focus remains on patient education and autonomy, ensuring that medical decisions are guided by clarity and choice rather than fear.

Early detection remains the most powerful weapon against cancer. The future of cancer screening is bright, with safer, more accurate, and personalised options. Knowing your risk and taking charge of your health can save your life.

Apollo ProHealth PRESENTS
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Have questions for our doctors?
WhatsApp us at 89392 83283
or email us at sincerelyyourdoctor@thehindu.co.in

JERUSALEM

## Israel charges five soldiers for abusing Palestinian detainee

AFP

The Israeli military said on Wednesday it has indicted five reservist soldiers for severely abusing a Palestinian detainee at the Sde Teiman facility on July 5, 2024. The charges include causing significant injuries, such as cracked ribs and a punctured lung, through violent acts including stabbing with a sharp object. AFP

GAZA CITY

## Ready to free all hostages together in phase two of Gaza truce: Hamas

AFP

Hamas signalled on Wednesday that it was willing to free all remaining hostages held in Gaza in a single swap during the next phase of an ongoing ceasefire. This step was meant "to confirm our seriousness and complete readiness to move forward in resolving this issue", a senior Hamas official said. AFP

HANOI

## Vietnam Parliament approves $8-billion railway link to China

AFP

Vietnam's Parliament has approved an $8 billion rail link to China, designed to boost trade and connectivity between the two countries. The 390-km line will connect Haiphong to Lao Cai, running through key manufacturing hubs and the capital, Hanoi. It is part of Vietnam's "Two Corridors, One Belt" initiative. AFP

VATICAN CITY

## Pope Francis 'breathing on his own' despite pneumonia: Vatican

AFP

Despite a "complex clinical picture" and a polymicrobial respiratory tract infection, the Vatican reports that Pope Francis remains in good spirits, is breathing on his own, and his heart is holding up well. The 88-year-old is being treated for pneumonia in both lungs after being admitted to a hospital last week for bronchitis. AFP

# Trump tells 'dictator' Zelenskyy to move fast for peace or lose Ukraine

President Donald Trump calls Ukrainian President a 'dictator without elections'; the latter responds to Trump's claims by stating that Trump is living in a 'disinformation space'; U.S. President also mentions possibility of meeting Putin this month

**Reuters**
WASHINGTON/KYIV

U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday denounced Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy as "a dictator without elections" and said he had better move fast to secure a peace or he would have no country left.

Mr. Trump spoke hours after Mr. Zelenskyy hit back at his suggestion that Ukraine was responsible for Russia's 2022 full-scale invasion, saying the U.S. President was trapped in a Russian disinformation bubble.

**Trading words:** Volodymyr Zelenskyy with Donald Trump during a meeting in September 2024 in New York. AFP

"A Dictator without Elections, Zelenskyy better move fast or he is not going to have a Country left," Mr. Trump wrote on his Truth Social media platform.

In response, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha said no one could force his country to give in. "We will defend our right to exist," Mr. Sybiha said on X.

Mr. Zelenskyy's five-year term was supposed to end in 2024 but presidential and parliamentary elections cannot be held under martial law, which Ukraine imposed in February 2022 in response to Russia's invasion.

Mr. Zelenskyy, who met Mr. Trump's Ukraine envoy Keith Kellogg in Kyiv on Wednesday, said he would like Mr. Trump's team to have "more truth" about Ukraine, a day after Mr. Trump said Ukraine "should never have started" the conflict with Russia.

Meanwhile, Mr. Trump said he may meet Mr. Putin this month. The Kremlin said such a meeting could take longer to prepare but Russia's sovereign wealth fund said it expected a number of U.S. companies to return to Russia as early as the second quarter.

In Moscow, Mr. Putin said on Wednesday that Ukraine would not be barred from peace negotiations but success would depend on raising the level of trust between Moscow and Washington. Mr. Putin, speaking a day after Russia and the U.S. held their first talks on how to end the three-year-old conflict, also said it would take time to set up a summit with Mr. Trump, which both men have said they want.

# Afghan refugees face arrests, eviction in twin cities of Pak.

**Associated Press**
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan wants to remove all Afghan refugees from the country and they face expulsion in the near future, the Afghan embassy in Islamabad warned on Wednesday.

The embassy issued a strongly worded statement about Pakistan's plans, saying Afghan nationals in the capital, Islamabad, and the nearby garrison city of Rawalpindi have been subjected to arrests, searches, and orders from the police to leave the twin cities and relocate to other parts of Pakistan.

"This process of detaining Afghans, which began without any formal announcement, has not been officially communicated to the Embassy of Afghanistan in Islamabad through any formal correspondence," it said.

Afghan embassy in Islamabad.

"Ultimately, officials from Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed that there is a definitive and final plan to deport all Afghan refugees not only from Islamabad and Rawalpindi but also from the entire country in the near future," the embassy said.

There was no immediate comment from the Pakistani government on the embassy statement.

The latest development follows Pakistan's threat to deport Afghans living in the country illegally. Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif approved a deadline of March 31 to deport those awaiting relocation to third countries unless their cases are swiftly processed by the governments who have agreed to take them. The Afghan embassy criticised "the short timeframe" given and "the unilateral nature of Pakistan's decision".

Besides the hundreds of thousands living illegally in Pakistan, some 1.45 million Afghans are registered with the UNHCR as refugees. Pakistan says those who were registered earlier had their stay extended until June 2025, and will not be arrested or deported at least until the extension expires.

# Alleged drug kingpin fatally shot inside Sri Lankan court

**Security flaw:** The police arrive on the court premises as a top drug dealer was shot dead in Colombo on Wednesday. AFP

**Meera Srinivasan**
COLOMBO

A gunman dressed as a lawyer fatally shot a key suspect inside a Sri Lankan courthouse, police said on Wednesday.

Ganemulle Sanjeeva, allegedly a drug dealer, was shot at close range, just when he entered the dock at the Colombo Magistrates Court during a bail hearing, according to media reports. Sanjeeva was critically injured in the incident and rushed to a hospital, where he was declared dead on arrival. The shocking incident during proceedings exposing a serious security failure drew wide media attention in the island nation.

A police spokesperson told the media that a woman dressed as a lawyer had helped the gunman by bringing the revolver – hidden inside a copy of the Code of Criminal Procedure whose pages had been hollowed out to fit the weapon – into the court premises. Five police teams were tasked with probing the incident.

# Bangladesh campus skirmish leaves over 150 students injured

**Agence France-Presse**
DHAKA

**Tuesday afternoon's clashes began after the youth wing of the BNP sought to recruit students**

More than 150 students have been injured in Bangladesh during clashes at a university campus, a sign of serious discord between groups instrumental in fomenting a national revolution last year.

Tuesday afternoon's clashes began after the youth wing of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) sought to recruit students at the Khulna University of Engineering and Technology in the country's southwest.

That sparked a confrontation with campus members of Students Against Discrimination (SAD), a protest group that led the uprising that ousted autocratic ex-premier Sheikh Hasina last August.

At least 50 people were taken for treatment after the skirmish, Khulna police officer Kabir Hossain said. "The situation is now under control, and an extra contingent of police has been deployed," he added.

Communications student Jahidur Rahman said that those hospitalised had injuries from thrown bricks and "sharp weapons", and that around 100 others had suffered minor injuries.

Both groups blamed the other for starting the violence, with the BNP student wing chief Nasir Uddin Nasir accusing members of Islamist political party Jamaat of agitating the situation to force a confrontation.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) is widely expected to win fresh elections slated to be held by the middle of next year.

# Brazil's Bolsonaro charged over alleged coup that included 'a plan to poison Lula'

**Associated Press**
RIO DE JANEIRO

Brazil's prosecutor-general on Tuesday formally charged former President Jair Bolsonaro with attempting a coup to stay in office after his 2022 election defeat, in a plot that included a plan to poison his successor and current President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and kill a Supreme Court judge.

Jair Bolsonaro

Prosecutor-General Paulo Gonet alleges that Mr. Bolsonaro and 33 others participated in a plan to remain in power. The alleged plot, he wrote, included a plan to poison Mr. Lula and shoot dead Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes, a foe of the former President.

"The members of the criminal organisation structured a plan at the presidential palace to attack institutions, aiming to bring down the system of the powers and the democratic order, which received the sinister name of 'Green and Yellow Dagger,'" Mr. Gonet wrote in a 272-page indictment. "The plan was conceived and taken to the knowledge of the President."

Mr. Bolsonaro's defence team said it met the accusations with "dismay and indignation," adding in a statement that the former "President has never agreed to any movement aimed at deconstructing the democratic rule of law".

**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA**
**DISTRICT HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE OFFICE, BALLARI.**
Tp: 08392 -276250 e-mail: dhobellari@gmail.com
NO.DHOB/ACCTS2/OUTSOURCE/25-26/01/2024-25
Date: 18.02.2025.

**E-TENDER NOTIFICATION**

E-tender is invited from eligible bidders for providing various manpower outsource services for 71 posts to various health institutions of DH&FWS, Ballari for the year 2025-26 in a two cover bid system the details of the same can be viewed from e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka. **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home** last date and time for receipt of e-tender is on **dated 04-03-2025 at17:00 PM,** tender amount is **Rs.190.16 lakhs** & Indent **No.DHFWS/2024-25/SE1274.**

**Sd/-Dist Health & Family Welfare Officer, Ballari& TIA.**
DIPR/Ballari/941/KSMCA/2024-25

**BANGALORE UNIVERSITY**
**Office of the Registrar, Jnanabharathi, Bengaluru – 56**
No.: BU/E-Gov/Tenders-ADV-30/2024-25 Date: 19.02.2025

**E-Tender Notification**

Bangalore University invites bids for the following tenders through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. Details of the tenders are available at e-procurement platform **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Bids are to be submitted electronically at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Bidders are requested to adhere to the time schedule prescribed in the tender.

| Sl No. | Description of the Tender |
|---|---|
| 1 | Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Digital Conference System to the Syndicate Hall of First Floor, Administrative Block, Jnana Bharathi Campus, Bangalore University (CALL-3) |
| 2 | Providing and Fixing Guardings (Cradle Guard) under High Power Transmission Line (11 KV) and Low Power Transmission Line (1.1KV), spacers to the sagged LT line at Jnana bharathi Campus, Bangalore University (CALL-2) |
| 3 | Proposed renovation works for Engineering Division at Jnana Bharathi Campus, Bangalore University |
| 4 | Providing repair works at toilet, bathroom and painting at Ladies Hostel, P.G Centre Ramanagara, Bangalore University |
| 5 | Providing Water Proofing, Painting, Electrical & Other Repair Works for L-12 Quarters at Jnana Bharathi Campus, Bangalore University |

DIPR/CP/5167/SSC/2024-25 **Sd/- REGISTRAR**

**Government of Karnataka**
**(PWD Division Raichur)**
**Executive Engineer**
**Public works department division Raichur**
**Telephone No. : 08532-225778**
**THESE WORKS ARE GENARAL, II(A), SC & ST CONTRACTORS**
PWD/RDN/TS-4/TN/2024-25/5145 Date: 12-02-2025
**Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Short Term Tender Notification -(KW- 2, 3 & 4)**
1) Notification No & Date: PWD/RDN/TS-4/TN/2024-25/5145 Date: 12-02-2025 2) Name of work's Raichur District Total 36 work's Raichur, Deodurga Manvi, Lingasugur, & Sindhanur taluk Different types of Buildings, Bridges & Road works. 3) Amount of works Min Rs. 4234917.50 Max Rs. 72269026.60 4) EMD Amount Min Rs. 80634.00 Max Rs. 1084100.00 5) Period (including Manson): Min 3 (Three) Month Max 11 (Eleven) Months 6) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tender: 25/02/2025 16:00:00 7) Date and Time for Opening of Tender: 27/02/2025 16:30:00 For More details visit this website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/
**Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD Division, RAICHUR.**
DIP/RCR/745/KSMCA/746/2024-25

**HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**
**ENGINEERING WING**
Office of the Chief Engineer, Arogya Soudha, 3rd floor, Leprosy Hospital Premises, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengaluru-560 023, Telephone No.080-29557023
E-mail:cekhsdrp@gmail.com
No:HFWD/EW/CE/TA-1/AE-3/CCB-Udupi(Call-2)TND/2024-25/3567 Date: 18.02.2025

**SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION-CALL-2**

The Chief Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru invites tender from eligible contractors registered in KPWD in two Cover tender document system through Karnataka Public Procurement portal for the following works.

**Description of works:** Construction of Critical Care Block in the Existing District Hospital at Udupi (Alteration in Ground and 2nd Floor & additional construction in 5th Floor of Existing 250 bed District Hospital Building) (Call-2).. Approximate Estimate cost: **Rs. 662.00 lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 9.93 Lakhs.** Stipulated period for Completion (including monsoon): **11 Months.**

**Calendar of Events: (1)** Last date for receipt of tenders: **27.02.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. (2)** Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **28.02.2025 at 16.30 hrs.**

The tender details can be downloaded from the KPP Platform. Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the KPP Platform to participate in this tender.

**NOTE: (1)** All the rights are reserved by the under signed for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids/individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. **(2)** Henceforth, any changes in the schedule/contents will not be published through newspapers and further changes will be updated only on KPP Portal.

**Sd/- Chief Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru.**

**KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD**
**(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)**
# 49, 4th & 5th Floors, 'East Wing', Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.
Phone : 080-40931272 Website: www.kiadb.in
e-mail: cdoce1@kiadb.in or jdtp@kiadb.in
No: IADB/JDTP/EIA/ETND-EC-17/FNo.89/489/2024-25 Date :19-02-2025

**SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER TO PROVIDE CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR OBTAINING ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE (EC) (Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)**

KIADB is inviting tender under two cover systems for providing consultancy services from Environmental Consultant of NABET under 7(c) category with NABL Accredited Consultant/ NABET consultancy MoU with NABL Accredited Consultant are eligible to participate in this tenders.

| Sl. No. | Name of the work | EMD (Rs in lakhs) |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Providing Consultancy Services for preparing EIA, SIS studies etc., to obtain Environmental Clearance (EC) from State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and Consent for Establishment (CFE) from Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) and submission of Half-yearly compliance Report for all the conditions of EC & CFE for 3 years for the **Chinthamani Industrial Area** at Kanishettahalli village, Marugamalla Hobli, Badagavarahalli, Mykaladonnenahalli, Kongathimmanahalli and Kagathi villages, Kasaba Hobli, Chinthamani Taluk and Chikkaballapura District in an extent of 958Acres-10Guntas. | 2.00 |

Applicants may download bidding documents from the e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
**Scheduled of dates are as follows:**
- Last Date for submission of Tenders **10-03-2025 up to 4.00 PM**

**Sd/-**
**Chief Engineer-1**
**KIADB, Bengaluru**
DIPR/CP/5181 /MAA/2024-25

MYSTERY MAN

## 'Varun doesn't want even the teammates to see his variations'

GETTY IMAGES

India skipper Rohit Sharma joked that mystery spinner Varun Chakaravarthy doesn't want even his teammates to see his variations in the nets. "He bowls one type of delivery only. Perhaps he doesn't want even us to know what he's got. Whatever we have seen in the last eight or nine months has been very impressive".

WELL PREPARED

## Team ticked most of the boxes in the England series: Rohit

AFP

Rohit Sharma said the team ticked most boxes in the three-match ODI series against England. "When you are playing a series before a tournament like that, you want to try and tick off certain boxes, and I thought we did it. We batted well and bowled pretty well against England to restrict them for below par score on three occasions".

ROHIT ON KULDEEP

## 'With certain players, it's just about getting back to playing'

ANI

Rohit Sharma backed spinner Kuldeep Yadav, who made a comeback during the ODIs against England after an injury. "With certain players, you don't have to look at the numbers in detail. It is just about getting back to playing and the numbers will come... that is what our faith is in as captain and coach," said Rohit.

PACE IS ACE

## Having fast bowlers helps motivate the team: Bangladesh captain

PTI

Najmul said having pacers who can bowl at a brisk pace is motivating the rest of the team. "We have always struggled with our seam attack, but in the last couple of years, we have had some quality fast bowlers. He (Nahid Rana) bowled well in the last few matches. When we see that, it helps our whole bowling unit".

**Sweeping success:** Latham provided the finishing touches to New Zealand's onslaught. AFP

# Young, Latham star for New Zealand

Phillips smashes quickfire half-century to take the Kiwis past 300-mark; defending champ Pakistan comes a cropper after batters fail to get going

CHAMPIONS TROPHY

**Press Trust of India**
KARACHI

Will Young and Tom Latham struck fine hundreds as New Zealand maintained its recent dominance over host Pakistan with an emphatic 60-run win in the Champions Trophy opener here on Wednesday.

Young smashed 107 off 113 balls, while Latham remained unbeaten on 118 (104b) to steer the Black Caps to 320 for five after Pakistan put them in to bat.

Glenn Phillips' 39-ball 61 also went a long way in the Kiwis getting past the 300-run mark as New Zealand overcame a shaky start.

**Conservative approach**

The Pakistan top-order, comprising Babar Azam (64, 90b), Mohammed Rizwan (3, 14b) and Saud Shakeel (6, 19b), was too conservative in its approach. That ultimately cost the home team as it ended at 260 in 47.2 overs.

Fakhar Zaman (24, 41b) batted at No. 4 after being off the field for a major part of the New Zealand innings due to an injury scare.

The sole positive for defending champion Pakistan ahead of its clash against India was the performance of the lower-order with Khushdil Shah smashing 69 off 49 balls.

New Zealand pacers as well as spinners bowled with accuracy, not allowing the opposition batters to get away. The efforts of pacer William O'Rourke (3/47) and Mitchell Santner (3/66) stood out with the ball.

Earlier, Young struck 12 fours and a six, while Latham batted through the innings to strike 10 boundaries and three maximums as New Zealand posted a mammoth total.

**The scores:** New Zealand 320/5 in 50 overs (Young 107, Latham 118, Phillips 61) bt Pakistan 260 in 47.2 overs (Babar Azam 64, Khushdil 69, O'Rourke 3/47, Santner 3/66); **Toss:** Pakistan; **PoM:** Latham.

# Focus on bowling combination as buoyant India faces Bangladesh

**S. Dipak Ragav**
DUBAI

A place that is synonymous with brutal heat has welcomed the Indian team with a pleasant climate and there was even a spattering of rain on Tuesday.

As spring approaches, there is a sense of optimism as the Men in Blue embark on a journey for another ICC crown when they take on Bangladesh in their opening fixture of the Champions Trophy at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Thursday.

India's whitewash of England in the recent three-match series was a much-needed confidence boost ahead of this event.

It also helped the team find answers to some nagging questions.

**Concerns**

There were concerns surrounding the form of key batters, and fortunately, most of them got some runs under their belt. Shubman Gill was the player of the series, while skipper Rohit Sharma cracked a fine century. Virat Kohli, too, managed a half-century in the third ODI. Shreyas Iyer is in a rich vein of form and will anchor the middle-order alongside K.L. Rahul, Axar Patel, Hardik Pandya and Ravindra Jadeja.

However, the big concern continues to be the pace bowling attack, which suffered a major setback when Jasprit Bumrah was ruled out of the competition with a back injury.

**Hard call:** India's captain Rohit, centre, will have a tough decision choosing one between Arshdeep and Harshit. AFP

Mohammed Shami has slowly eased into a rhythm since his comeback but is yet to hit the peak he showed in the '23 World Cup.

It will also be interesting to see if Harshit Rana, who played all three games against England, gets to start ahead of Arshdeep Singh.

The absence of Bumrah means India will have to bank on its spinners, and for that, Hardik Pandya will have a huge role to play.

If the all-rounder stays fit through the tournament and can do the third seamer's job effectively, the two-time champion can play three spinners without affecting the batting depth.

Another potential selection quandary will be whether to bank on Kuldeep Yadav's experience or go for Varun Chakaravarthy's mystery spin.

The pitch in Dubai is expected to aid the tweakers, and the pleasant day-time temperatures mean dew might not have a huge role to play.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh hasn't played an ODI this year and lost 0-3 to West Indies in its previous series. Without star all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan, the Tigers will need senior pros like Mushfiqur Rahim and Mahmudullah to shoulder the batting load. On the bowling front, the outfit has a potent pace attack with the fiery Nahid Rana and Tanzim Hasan alongside veterans Taskin Ahmed and Mustafizur Rahman. Najmul Hossain Shanto will depend on his quicks to rattle a strong Indian batting line-up.

In a tournament where no team has a defining edge, India seems to have the most sorted line-up, considering there hasn't been much turnover in its ODI squad from the one that reached the final of the 50-over World Cup in 2023.

While the pain of that loss in the final will continue to linger, Rohit's men will look to start strongly in pursuit of another ICC one-day international title.

**The teams (from):**
**India:** Rohit Sharma (Capt.), Shubman Gill (Vice-capt.), Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, K.L. Rahul (wk), Rishabh Pant (wk), Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Harshit Rana, Mohammed Shami, Arshdeep Singh, Ravindra Jadeja, and Varun Chakaravarthy.
**Bangladesh:** Nazmul Hossain Shanto (Capt.), Soumya Sarkar, Tanzid Hasan, Tawhid Hridoy, Mushfiqur Rahim (wk), Mahmudullah, Jaker Ali Anik, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Rishad Hossain, Taskin Ahmed, Mustafizur Rahman, Parvez Hossain Emon, Nasum Ahmed, Tanzim Hasan Sakib, and Nahid Rana.
**Match officials: On-field umpires:** Adrian Holdstock and Paul Reiffel; **TV umpire:** Richard Illingworth; **Fourth umpire:** Michael Gough; **Match referee:** David Boon.
*Match starts at 2.30 p.m. IST.*

## Not worried about Shami's meagre returns: Rohit

**S. Dipak Ragav**
DUBAI

Ahead of the Champions Trophy, one area where India feels a bit undercooked is the pace bowling department, with Jasprit Bumrah unavailable. A lot rides on Mohammed Shami, who returned to international cricket last month after over a year on the sidelines. The experienced seamer has to guide a young pace attack that includes Arshdeep Singh and Harshit Rana, who have played only a handful of one-dayers.

Shami played two games against England and took one wicket each in both outings. However, skipper Rohit Sharma felt that the team is not worried about the pacer's meagre returns and said the focus was to get him back on the field.

"Shami has played only two (ODI) games and a couple of T20Is. All we wanted with Shami was to get him back wearing the Indian colours more than anything else," said Rohit.

"Whether he gets wickets or not, that was completely immaterial for us at that point. We wanted him to return to playing for India, and he has done that. Whatever I have seen of him so far looks perfectly fine. When you talk about a bowler like Shami, who has done the job for us over the years, it is just about getting back to rhythm," he added.

## Bayern weathers a Celtic surge

**Agence France-Presse**
PARIS

Bayern Munich needed a stoppage-time goal to see off Celtic and secure a place in the last 16 of the Champions League on Tuesday, while AC Milan was dumped out by Feyenoord after being reduced to 10 men.

Bayern was defending a 2-1 lead over Celtic in their play-off tie from last week's first leg but was unable to put the tie to bed.

Instead it was Celtic which went ahead on 63 minutes thanks to Nicolas Kuehn. With the tie heading for extra time, Alphonso Davies bundled the ball in from close range to make the score 1-1 and clinch the tie for Bayern 3-2 on aggregate.

**Other results:** Atalanta 1 (Lookman 46) lost to Club Brugge 3 (Talbi 3, 27, Jutgla 45+3) (*Club Brugge wins 5-2 on aggregate*); AC Milan 1 (Gimenez 1) drew with Feyenoord 1 (Carranza 73) (*Feyenoord wins 2-1 on aggregate*); Benfica 3 (Akturkoglu 22, Pavlidis 76-pen, Kokcu 84) drew with Monaco 3 (Minamino 32, Ben Seghir 51, Ilenikhena 81) (*Benfica wins 4-3 on aggregate*).

# Lanning's experience to the fore as Capitals battle past Warriorz

WPL

**P.K. Ajith Kumar**
VADODARA

Win toss, bowl first, chase it down.

There was no change in the pattern on Wednesday night in WPL 3. The first leg of the league ended at the BCA Stadium with Delhi Capitals beating UP Warriorz by seven wickets with a ball to spare.

When you have the best partnership in the tournament's history, the chasing becomes a tad easier. Meg Lanning (69, 49b, 12x4) and Shafali Verma (26, 16b, 3x4, 1x6) gave the Capitals another splendid start. Chasing the Warriorz's 166 for seven, they struck 65 in less than seven overs.

It was yet again the younger opener that put the pressure on the bowlers from early on. Shafali smashed young seamer Kranti Goud for a four and six off successive balls in the first over.

It seemed luck was favouring Shafali, as she was dropped by Chinelle Henry off the Warriorz captain Deepti Sharma at deep mid-wicket. But off the fifth ball of the over, the West Indian, making her WPL debut, redeemed herself and held the catch.

Lanning... leading the way. WPL

In the following over, Sophie Ecclestone sent Jemimah Rodrigues back for a two-ball duck. But Lanning was batting serenely.

She put on 49 for the third wicket with fellow-Australian Annabel Sutherland (41 not out, 35b, 4x4) before she shuffled across too much and was bowled by Grace Harris. Sutherland and Marizanne Kapp (29 not out, 17b, 4x4) then took their side home with their unbroken fourth wicket stand of 48.

Earlier, it was two blistering knocks, at either end of the innings, that gave UP Warriorz a fighting total.

Opener Kiran Navgire (51, 27b, 6x4, 3x6) and Henry (33 not out, 15b, 3x4, 3x6) delighted the big crowd that came to watch Vadodara's last WPL match of the season. There was also a mature innings from the young Shweta Sehrawat (37, 33b, 4x4, 1x6).

But, it was Lanning's experience that carried the night.

SCOREBOARD

**UP WARRIORZ**
Kiran Navgire c Shafali b Sutherland 51 *(27b, 6x4, 3x6)*, Vrinda Dinesh c Jemimah b Sutherland 16 *(15b, 2x4)*, Deepti Sharma st. Bryce b Minnu 7 *(7b, 1x4)*, Tahlia McGrath st. Bryce b Jonassen 1 *(6b)*, Shweta Sehrawat c Jemimah b Kapp 37 *(33b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Grace Harris c Shafali b Arundhati 12 *(14b, 1x4)*, Chinelle Henry (not out) 33 *(15b, 3x4, 3x6)*, Sophie Ecclestone run out 2 *(3b)*; Extras (lb-4, w-3) 7; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 166.

**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-66 (Vrinda, 5.5 overs), 2-73 (Kiran, 7.1), 3-76 (McGrath, 8.4), 4-82 (Deepti, 9.4), 5-118 (Harris, 14.6), 6-162 (Shweta, 19.1), 7-166 (Ecclestone, 19.6).

**CAPITALS BOWLING**
Kapp 4-0-30-1, Shikha 3-0-43-0, Jonassen 4-0-21-1, Sutherland 4-0-26-2, Arundhati 3-0-26-1, Minnu 2-0-16-1.

**DELHI CAPITALS**
Shafali Verma c Henry b Deepti 26 *(16b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Meg Lanning b Harris 69 *(49b, 12x4)*, Jemimah Rodrigues c Rajeshwari b Ecclestone 0 *(2b)*, Annabel Sutherland (not out) 41 *(35b, 4x4)*, Marizanne Kapp (not out) 29 *(17b, 4x4)*; Extras (w-2): 2; Total (for three wkts. in 19.5 overs): 167.

**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-65 (Shafali, 6.5), 2-70 (Jemimah, 7.3), 3-119 (Lanning, 14.4).

**WARRIORZ BOWLING**
Kranti 2-0-22-0, Ecclestone 4-0-31-1, Rajeshwari 2-0-24-0, Henry 3-0-26-0, Deepti 4-0-27-1, McGrath 2.5-0-26-0, Harris 2-0-11-1.

**Toss:** Capitals; **PoM:** Sutherland.
*Capitals won by seven wickets with one ball to spare.*
**Friday's match:** Royal Challengers vs Mumbai Indians, Bengaluru, 7.30 p.m.

# Indian men down Germany, women falter against Spain

PRO LEAGUE

**Uthra Ganesan**
BHUBANESWAR

For the second time through the FIH Pro League, the Indian men bounced back from defeat to register a hard-fought 1-0 win against Germany at the Kalinga Stadium here on Wednesday. The women, however, slid further, losing by the same margin to Spain for their third defeat in a row.

The scoreline in the men's game might indicate a lack of action, but it was anything but that. The experiment with personnel continued as Manpreet Singh and Abhishek Nain were rested while Harmanpreet Singh and Hardik Singh returned. However, Fulton's tactical play ensured the Germans would not have a free run of the field like they did on Tuesday.

Harmanpreet's free hit from outside the circle in the fourth minute was intercepted by Rajinder Singh – among the most impressive of youngsters in the competition so far – who put an unmarked Gurjant Singh through for the match's only goal. Rajinder, with his intelligent sense of positioning and impeccable passing on the right, has been instrumental in most of the goals scored by India.

**Much-needed win:** Gurjant's strike did it for India. X@FIH_HOCKEY

A tighter defence and zonal marking cut down the space available for the Germans to attack. The tackling was cleaner, with Nilam Sanjeep Xess and Yashdeep Siwach cutting down angles from the flanks to advance.

Despite seven penalty corners, Germany and Gonzalo Peillat were unable to find a way to get past Krishan Pathak and Suraj Karkera, both goalkeepers bringing off a series of impressive saves to deny them.

With Manpreet missing, Hardik moved into an attacking midfield role and repeatedly created chances. India came close on a number of occasions, but Alexander Stadler in the German goal stood firm, including a double save in the 44th minute from Gurjant and Vivek Prasad.

**The results: Men:** Spain 4 (Menini 9, Lacalle 28, Cunill 37, Alvarez 49) bt England 1 (Ramshaw 50); India 1 (Gurjant 4) bt Germany 0.
**Women:** Spain 1 (Segu 49) bt India 0.

## INBRIEF

FILE PHOTO: VIVEK BENDRE

### Former Mumbai captain and selector Rege passes away

Former Mumbai captain Milind Rege – renowned as Mumbai cricket's encyclopedia – passed away on Wednesday at a hospital due to a cardiac arrest. He was 76. An off-spinning all-rounder who featured in 52 First Class matches in the golden age of Mumbai cricket, Rege was a part of the five consecutive Ranji title-winning seasons for Mumbai. His playing career was cut short due to cardiac issues in the late 20s but he not only made a comeback to the competitive arena but also enjoyed a sterling career off the field. He also took pride in unearthing talent as a selector.

### Injured Tomiyasu of Arsenal to miss rest of the season

Arsenal defender Takehiro Tomiyasu will miss the rest of the season following surgery on his right knee, the Premier League title contender announced on Wednesday. "Tomi continued to have issues with his knee, resulting in a further corrective surgical procedure," Arsenal said in a statement.

# Panchal leads Gujarat's riposte against Kerala with a sublime century

An opening 131-run partnership with Aarya ensures that the host has reeled in nearly half of the visitor's total while losing just one wicket

RANJI TROPHY

**Anish Pathiyil**
AHMEDABAD

A sublime unbeaten century from opener Priyank Panchal helped Gujarat fight back and remain on track to overcome Kerala's formidable first-innings total during their Ranji Trophy semifinal here on Wednesday.

Panchal remained unbeaten on 117 off 200 balls at the end of the third day, taking his side to 222 for one in 71 overs, 235 runs short of the visitor's score of 457.

The 34-year-old forged a 131-run opening partnership with Aarya Desai to give his team the perfect start after Kerala's bowlers found no help from the freshly rolled pitch.

Gujarat's game plan was in stark contrast to the visitor's, aiming to score as many as possible when the pitch was benign.

**Perfect start:** Panchal's action-plan of aiming to score as many as possible when the pitch was benign paid off handsomely. R.V. MOORTHY

Aarya and Panchal did not shy away from driving, accumulating quite a few runs through the vacant third-man region.

Basil N.P. provided Kerala with the breakthrough when he forced Aarya to inside-edge a wide ball onto his stump, when on 73. Panchal then took over the run-scoring responsibility, bringing up his 29th First Class hundred, with a six off Aditya Sarwate.

The experienced opener and Manan Hingrajia each survived edges that fell short, navigated the last phase of play and ensured the team had nine wickets in hand heading into day four.

**Early blow**

Earlier, Kerala's aim to prolong the innings suffered a blow four overs into the day when Sarwate's off-stump was knocked back by Chintan Gaja, handing the Gujarat captain his 200th First Class wicket.

With just the two pace bowlers left for company, Mohammed Azharuddeen wrested the bulk of the strike, broadening his strokes, trying to accumulate as many runs as possible.

But he was left stranded on an unbeaten 177 when Gaja removed the last wicket at 457.

**The scores: Kerala – 1st innings:** Akshay Chandran (run out) 30, Rohan Kunnummal lbw b Bishnoi 30, Varun Nayanar c Urvil b Priyajitsinh 10, Sachin Baby c Aarya b Nagwaswalla 69, Jalaj Saxena b Nagwaswalla 30, Mohammed Azharuddeen (not out) 177, Salman Nizar lbw b Jayswal 52, Ahammed Imran c Urvil b Nagwaswalla 24, Aditya Sarwate b Gaja 11, Nidheesh M.D. (run out) 5, Basil N.P. c Aarya b Gaja 1; Extras (lb-14, w-1, nb-3): 18; Total (in 187 overs): 457.

**Fall of wickets:** 1-60, 2-63, 3-86, 4-157, 5-206, 6-355, 7-395, 8-428, 9-455.

**Gujarat bowling:** Gaja 33-9-75-2, Nagwaswalla 34-9-81-3, Priyajitsinh 21-2-58-1, Jaymeet 13-1-46-0, Bishnoi 30-7-74-1, Siddharth 33-13-49-0, Jayswal 22-5-57-1, Aarya 1-0-3-0.

**Gujarat – 1st innings:** Priyank Panchal (batting) 117, Aarya Desai b Basil 73, Manan Hingrajia (batting) 30; Extras (b-2): 2; Total (for one wkt. in 71 overs): 222.

**Fall of wicket:** 1-131

**Kerala bowling:** Nidheesh 10-1-40-0, Saxena 25-5-71-0, Basil 15-1-40-1, Sarwate 17-2-55-0, Chandran 3-0-11-0, Imran 1-0-3-0.

# Yash, Wadkar help Vidarbha take firm grip of semifinal

**Amol Karhadkar**
NAGPUR

Yash Rathod scored a second half-century of the match to ensure that Vidarbha did not surrender the advantage to Mumbai in its Ranji Trophy semifinal at the Vidarbha Cricket Association stadium. The home team not only took a firm grip of proceedings at the end of day three but also has – more importantly – put one foot in the final.

The in-form Yash and captain Akshay Wadkar, who train at the Nagpur Cricket Academy together, pulled Vidarbha out of trouble.

After earning a sizeable 113-run lead, the home team appeared to be in a spot of bother before the duo's unbroken 91-run stand helped it end the day at 147 for four.

With a huge lead of 260 runs, Vidarbha will be hoping the duo continues to bat long on Thursday and completely bat Mumbai out of the contest.

**Gritty stuff:** Yash came up with a crucial knock. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Had it not been for opener Akash Anand's fluent hundred in the morning, Mumbai would have conceded a much bigger lead. Starting the day at 188 for seven, Wadkar dropped Tanush Kotian in the first over of the day. While Kotian and Akash frustrated the Vidarbha bowlers till the first drinks break, Parth Rekhade came to Vidarbha's rescue yet again.

The left-arm spinner hurried one through the gate to crash into Kotian's stumps and break the 68-run association. Akash's marathon knock was finally over with a nick behind the wicket off the new ball soon after he paddle-swept Rekhade for his 11th four. The Mumbai innings was over when Mohit Avasthi missed the line and was bowled by Harsh Dubey.

With a solitary over to be seen through before the break, Atharva Taide perished to Shardul Thakur's straight one.

Soon after the break, Shams Mulani and Tanush Kotian struck thrice in quick succession to reduce Vidarbha to 56 for four.

Rathod and Wadkar then saw off the last session without much of a fuss.

While the left-handed Yash punched and flicked with aplomb, Wadkar survived despite walking down the crease to pacers too many times.

**The scores:**
**Vidarbha – 1st innings:** 383.
**Mumbai - 1st innings:** Ayush Mhatre c Malewar b Nalkande 9, Akash Anand c Wadkar b Bhute 106, Siddhesh Lad b Yash 35, Ajinkya Rahane b Rekhade 18, Suryakumar Yadav c Malewar b Rekhade 0, Shivam Dube c Taide b Rekhade 0, Shams Mulani lbw b Dubey 4, Shardul Thakur c Nalkande b Yash 37, Tanush Kotian b Rekhade 33, Mohit Avasthi b Dubey 10, Royston Dias (not out) 2; Extras (b-3, nb-11, w-2): 16; Total (in 92 overs): 270.
**Fall of wickets:** 1-18, 2-85, 3-113, 4-113, 5-113, 6-118, 7-178, 8-247, 9-261.
**Vidarbha bowling:** Nalkande 12-1-46-1, Yash 16-0-73-2, Dubey 25-3-68-2, Bhute 9-2-25-1, Rekhade 30-9-55-4.
**Vidarbha – 2nd innings:** Atharva Taide lbw b Thakur 0, Dhruv Shorey lbw b Kotian 13, Danish Malewar c & b Mulani 29, Karun Nair lbw b Mulani 6, Yash Rathod (batting) 59, Akshay Wadkar (batting) 31; Extras (b-4, lb-2, nb-3): 9; Total (for four wkts. in 53 overs): 147.
**Fall of wickets:** 1-0, 2-40, 3-52, 4-56.
**Mumbai bowling:** Shardul 6-2-14-1, Avasthi 2-0-13-0, Mulani 20-3-50-2, Dias 7-4-11-0, Kotian 14-1-33-1, Shivam 3-0-17-0, Mhatre 1-0-3-0.

# TCS World 10K Bengaluru on April 27

**Big purse:** The TCS World 10K Bengaluru carries a total prize money of $210,000. FILE PHOTO : SUDHAKARA JAIN

**Sports Bureau**
BENGALURU

The 17th Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) World 10K Bengaluru will be held here on April 27. The World Athletics Gold Label Road Race carries a total prize money of $210,000.

The race will be flagged off from Cubbon Road, while the finish line for all races will be outside Field Marshall Sam Manekshaw Parade Ground.

Registrations for all race categories – Open 10K, Majja Run (5.1km), Sr. Citizens Run, and Champions with Disability (4.2km) – will open on Thursday and close on March 28. Participants can register on https://tcsworld10k.procam.in/.

A limited number of spots are reserved for women who do not have a timing certificate.

The virtual edition allows runners to participate and experience the event through the TCS World 10K Bengaluru app. The organiser, Procam International, is confident that this latest iteration will surpass the 33,000 entries received in the previous edition.

# Soman springs a surprise, outshines Hokata to win gold

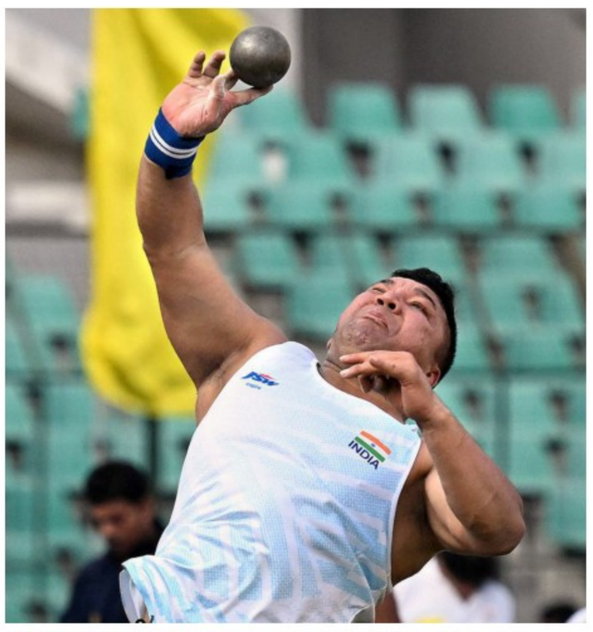
PARA ATHLETICS

**Sports Bureau**
CHENNAI

Bihar's Soman Rana sprung a surprise by winning the gold in the men's shot put F57 section, putting to shade Hokata Sema, the Paris Paralympic bronze medallist, who finished second, in the National para athletics championships at the Nehru Stadium here on Wednesday. Rana heaved the 4kg iron ball to a distance of 14.42 metres while Hokata of Services could come up with just a 13.53m.

"We (Hokata and me) train together in Army Paralympic Node in Pune. We are very good friends, who help each other. It feels happy to win the gold," said Rana, who had finished fourth in Tokyo Olympics and fifth in Paris.

Hokata said he is very happy for his friend Rana but said the platform was not of good quality. "It was a football ground. The platform was not good, it moves when you throw and when we throw with full power, we lose our balance," said Hokata.



**Heave-ho:** Soman came up with an impressive effort. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Deepthi Jeevanji of Telangana, the Paris Paralympic bronze medallist, gold medallist in the 2024 World championships and and the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Games, ran a confident race to emerge a comfortable winner in the women's 400m T20 category in a time of 57.85s.

**The results (winners only):**
**Men: shot put: F53:** Sumit (Har) 6.89m; **F55:** Muthuraja Karaiyalan (TN) 10.67m; **javelin throw:** F53: Sumit (Har) 17.15m; **shot put: F57:** Soman Rana (Bhr) 14.42m; **long jump: T37:** Ramsungi Thakor (Guj) 5.15m.
**Women: 400m: T13:** Geeta Mahto (Del) 1:11.89s; **T37:** Harshita Tater (Kar) 1:36.09; **T20:** Deepthi Jeevangji (TS) 57.85s; **discus: F37:** Priyanka (Raj) 20.63m; **F40:** Akutai Sitaram Ulbhagat (Mah) 15.63; **F57:** Suman Bala (Har) 19.76m; **shot put: F40:** Akutai Sitaram Ulbhagat (Mah) 5.85m.

# Vacherot cruises into the quarterfinals

**Sports Bureau**

Defending champion Valentin Vacherot of Monaco eased past qualifier Masamichi Imamura of Japan 6-2, 6-3 in the second round of the Pune Metropolitan $160,000 Maha Open Challenger tennis tournament at the Balewadi Stadium on Wednesday.

In the quarterfinals, Vacherot will play eighth seed Alexis Galarneau of Canada.

In doubles, there was a lot of success for the Indian players in the top half of the draw, while three Indian teams in the bottom half of the draw could not find their way forward.

Saketh Myneni and Ramkumar Ramanathan beat Michael Geerts and Billy Harris 6-0, 6-4 to set up a quarterfinal against top seeds Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth.

Niki Poonacha in partnership with Courtney Lock, the finalists of the Delhi Challenger last week, set up a quarterfinal against third seeds Blake Ellis and Tristan Schoolkate of Australia.

Defending champion Vacherot eased past Japan's Imamura in the second round.

**Other results: Second round:** Alexis Galarneau (Can) bt Michael Geerts (Bel) 6-4, 6-4; Dalibor Svrcina (Cze) bt Jurij Rodionov (Aut) 6-4, 7-5; Ilia Simakin bt James McCabe (Aus) 6-2, 6-4.
**Doubles: First round:** Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan & Vijay Sundar Prashanth bt August Holmgren & Elmer Moller (Den) 6-3, 7-6(7); Blake Ellis & Tristan Schoolkate (Aus) bt Johannes Ingildsen (Den) & Ivan Liutarevich 6-3, 6-4; Niki Poonacha & Courtney Lock (Zim) bt Alexis Galarneau & Kelsey Stevenson (Can) 6-4, 7-6(1); Jay Clarke (GBR) & Jurij Rodionov (Aut) bt Enzo Couacaud (Fra) & Rio Noguchi (Jpn) 6-3, 5-7, [12-10]; Petr Biryukov & Ilia Simakin bt Anirudh Chandrasekar & Ray Ho (Tpe) 7-6(3), 6-7(6), [10-4]; Enrico Dalla Valle (Ita) & Khumoyun Sultanov (Uzb) bt Karan Singh & Nitin Kumar Sinha 6-2, 6-2; Blake Baylon & Matthew Romios (Aus) bt Siddhant Banthia & Parikshit Somani 6-2, 6-4.

# Hyderabad, Mumbai City play out goalless draw

**Sports Bureau**
HYDERABAD

Hyderabad FC held Mumbai City FC to a goalless draw at the GMC Balayogi Stadium in the Indian Super League (ISL) in Hyderabad on Wednesday.

The result extended the Islanders' unbeaten away streak to eight games and the outfit is now in fifth spot with 32 points from 21 games.

Hyderabad has not lost at home in its last three matches (W2 D1).

# Murray set to continue as Djokovic's coach through French Open

**Associated Press**
DOHA

Andy Murray looks set to remain as Novak Djokovic's coach likely through the French Open. The 24-time Grand Slam champion told the ATP Tour's in-house media channel on Tuesday that Murray has agreed to stay on as coach.

"I expressed my desire to continue the collaboration with him, so I am really glad he did accept," said Djokovic.

"It is indefinite in terms of how long we are going to work together, but we agreed most likely in the States and some clay-court tournaments," Djokovic added.

# Bopanna & Borges make last-eight stage

TENNIS

**Sports Bureau**

Rohan Bopanna and Nuno Borges of Portugal defeated fourth seeds Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori of Italy 7-6(2), 7-6(4) in the doubles pre-quarterfinals of the $3,035,960 ATP tennis tournament in Doha. In the quarterfinals, Bopanna and Borges will play Julian Cash and Lloyd Glasspool. Yuki Bhambri, who had made the quarterfinals with Ivan Dodig of Croatia earlier, will challenge top seeds Marcelo Arevalo and Mate Pavic.

**LIVE TELECAST**

**Ranji Trophy**: semifinals, day 4, JioHotstar, 9.30 a.m.
**Champions Trophy**: Bangladesh vs India, Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 2.30 p.m.
**Hockey**: Pro League, SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 & 6 p.m.
**ISL**: Sports 18-3 & JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.
**Europa League**: Sony LIV, 11.15 & 1.30 a.m. (Friday)
**Conference League**: Sony LIV, 11.15 & 1.30 a.m. (Friday).